

For the Proprietor of
HONGKONG TELEGRAPH,
For and on behalf of
SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, LTD.

The Hongkong Telegraph

Dine
At the
P. G.
For
Reservations
Tel: 27880

VOL. IV NO. 297

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1949.

Price 20 Cents

MAO TSE-TUNG ON STATE VISIT TO MOSCOW

Racing Tips

(By "The Turf")

- 1ST RACE**
Pacifier
Abdul Hamid
Green Velvet
Outsider—Yacal
- 2ND RACE**
Windermere
Sapientia
Epimord
Outsider—Marber
- 3RD RACE**
Home Builder
Minnie
Lily
Outsider—Jeep Shing
- 4TH RACE**
Sparkling Eyes
Dawn
Iron Horse
Outsider—Domino
- 5TH RACE**
Skymaster
Bashful Beauty
Arabian Dagger
Outsider—Pleasant Valley
- 6TH RACE**
World Peace
Pay Day
Barbarian
Outsider—Rose Emme
- 7TH RACE**
Rose Marie
Silver Spear
Radiotron
Outsider—Reuter
- 8TH RACE**
Good Day
Alfred
Elmer
Outsider—At Fresco or Good News

UNION OFFICIALS DISMISSED

London, Dec. 16.—Nine full-time officials of the powerful British Transport and General Workers' Union—the biggest trade union in the world outside Soviet Russia—have been dismissed for failing to declare that they were not members of the Communist or Fascist parties.

This action, announced tonight, followed a decision by the Executive of the Union banning Communists and Fascists from holding office.

Met At Station By Many High Officials

AN ELABORATE WELCOME

London, Dec. 16.—Radio Moscow said on Friday night that the Chinese Communist leader Mao Tse-tung had arrived in Moscow. The radio said that Mao was greeted at the Yaroslav Station by Vice Premier V. M. Molotov, Marshal N. A. Bulganin, and Deputy Foreign Trade Minister M. A. Menshikov, as well as other high officials.

The Chinese Communist leader, Mao Tse-tung, on Friday destroyed any lingering doubts about the brand of Communism he supports, by arriving in Moscow for a state visit. Moscow radio announced his arrival in a broadcast monitored here, and described in detail the elaborate welcome given him at the railway station by high Russian leaders, including Vice Premier Molotov.

Ever since Molotov was relieved of his duties as Foreign Minister early this year, there have been unconfirmed reports that he is contracting upon Far Eastern problems, especially the victorious sweep of the Chinese Communists to the south of China.

Mao, who is Chairman of the Central People's Government of the Chinese People's Republic, wanted no time in linking his regime directly with the Kremlin, as formally opposed to the "Western warmongers." Mao declared, "Long live the friendship and co-operation between China and the Soviet Union!" at the end of a speech on his arrival at the Moscow railway station. He placed Russia at the head of the seekers of peace. He said: "At the present time, the most important task is the strengthening of the front of peace throughout the world headed by the Soviet Union's struggle against the warmongers; strengthening of good neighbourly relations between the two great states of China and the Soviet Union, and the development of friendship of the Chinese and Soviet peoples."

Mao apparently travelled by train all the way from Peking to Moscow. The Moscow broadcast said he was met at the Soviet-Chinese frontier by Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, and representatives of the Trans-Baikalsky Military District, and the deputy of the Protocol Division of the Soviet Foreign Ministry.

Mao's brand of Communism has not been in much doubt in recent months, although there have been continuous reports that he might turn out to be a Chinese Tito. During the last years of the war it was popular in many Western circles, even official ones, to describe Mao as an agrarian Communist, not linked with the Kremlin.

Mao got what Westerners call the "plush" treatment, when he arrived at the Yaroslav station. He was met not only by Molotov, who greets only the most important arrivals, but also by Marshal N. A. Bulganin, and Deputy Foreign Trade Minister, M. A. Menshikov. Both Molotov and Bulganin are members of the Politburo. Deputy Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, was representing Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei Vyshinsky, who was en route home from the United Nations, after a two-day stop-over in Berlin to discuss the development of the Communist East German state.

Mao's visit to Moscow follows the almost complete consolidation of his victory over the Chinese Nationalists under Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, who has fled the mainland for Formosa.

The important Mao meeting with the Soviet Premier, Josef Stalin, also comes only a few weeks in advance of Britain's vote to give recognition of the People's Republic of China, and the Soviet-Chinese regime, and the Soviet-Chinese foreign minister, Gromyko, is in Moscow to study the Communist threat to Southeast Asia.

Only late in November, the Peking radio confirmed the establishment of a Far Eastern Commission to support the Communist parties and Communist-led national movements in Southern Asia.

Western observers believe diplomats when they said that there is little question about the agenda of the Kremlin meetings which will take place in the next few days. They anticipated a thorough survey by Mao and Stalin of the present situation in China, how to consolidate the Communists' victory there, and where to push next in the expansion of Communism to rule that vast country and its 400 million people.

A purpose of the visit, other than to cement the Soviet-Chinese friendship, was not stated. But Western officials thought that Mao might seek financial and military aid. In a recent broadcast he mentioned budgetary problems created by the absorption of the surrendered Kuomintang armies into the Chinese Communist army.

There was no hint in the Moscow broadcast whether Mao's visit to Moscow was on his own or the Kremlin's initiative. But the Russian ambassador to Peking, N.V. Roschin, accompanied him on the long trip.

The radio said that a guard of honour was lined up at the station to welcome Mao, and hands played the national anthems of both the Soviet Union and Communist China.

The radio said that Mao replied to the official greetings with a message proclaiming Communist China's solidarity with the Soviet Union. Mao is saying: "The opportunity to visit at this time the capital of the Soviet Union, the first great socialist state in the world, is a very joyous event in my life. I found and firm friendship exists between the great peoples of China and the Soviet Union. After the October Socialist Revolution, guided by the policy (Continued on Page 24)

To Australia In A Jeep



Four young men set off recently from Australia House, London, to travel 25,000 miles in a jeep—with a set of drums, a ukulele, a harmonica and a concertina. The four men are ex-officers and each carried travellers' cheques for £100—for petrol, etc., and will pay their way by entertaining en route. This picture shows the party when they started on the trip: Major Dennis Wright of Taunton; centre front with banjo is Captain J. Davey of Bradford-on-Avon; centre back is Captain Peter Blake of London, and right is Captain John Cocks, formerly of the Special Air Service.

Shore-Based Radar Aid For H.K. Shipping Proposed

PORT COMMITTEE SEEKING OPINIONS

Alive to the needs of the day, the Port Committee are advocating further marine navigational aids for shipping using the port of Hongkong, including land controlled radar and Very High Frequency Radio Telephony.

Shipping owners and masters have been approached through a circularised letter for their reactions to the proposals, and to discover whether, if Port Radar were installed, owners and captains would be willing to make use of it in thick weather, and co-operate by fitting R/T in their vessels.

Power Strike Definitely Settled

London, Dec. 16.—London's four-day electricity strike, which had affected industry and transport and backed out parts of the Metropolitan area, was "quite definitely settled" this afternoon.

As they left the Electricity Authority building, the trade union leaders expressed confidence that there would be a full resumption of work after the joint statement was issued.

The strike was apparently settled 24 hours ago, but men at three of the four main London power stations refused to return to work when the Electricity Authority issued a notice declaring all employees were returning to work "unconditionally."

The men held that this could lead to a victimisation of the strikers. — Reuter.

S'hai Property

Washington, Dec. 16.—The State Department reported that the Shanghai Municipal Land Administration Bureau has ordered owners of leases of property in certain areas of Shanghai to register their claims with the Bureau by December 20.

The order affects all property north of Hongkew Road, west of Suiyuan Road, south of Hou-chiao, and east of Hang-ching.

Persons with claims on property within this area were ordered to appear personally, but the American Consulate has informed the Communist authorities of possible absence of American owners.

The Consulate reserved the right to file applications after the Executive of the Union.

As a result of inquiries made through the shipping companies it is learnt that at least \$400,000 was lost this year because of delays caused by bad weather, including fog.

If the consensus of opinion among shipping owners and masters is in favour of radar equipment for Hongkong, the Port Committee would recommend to Government that a radar specialist be asked to come to the Colony and to advise on the best system and layout for Hongkong's particular requirements.

LYEMUN SITE

It is suggested that it would be possible to find a suitable site for the installation of shore radar on the high land north of Lyemun Pass, which apart from obliterating the building of a tower, would give the view to Waglan and as far west as Kowloon Point.

It may be found advisable to establish one or two buoys fitted with radar reflectors, in the Tathong Channel so as to indicate the accepted track and turning points. These would also have the added advantage of being identified and passed unless the fog was unusually dense.

The Port Committee emphasises that efficient VHF Radio-Telephony on an independent wave length is most essential, and it is observed that it may well be that the wave length selected will sooner or later be decided by international agreement.

It is pointed out that the ultimate responsibility for the safe navigation of a vessel must always remain with the Master, and the work of the "Control Officer" would be limited to passing prompt and exclusive information concerning the immediate position of the vessel and the movements of other vessels are likely to affect the navigation of the ship-in touch with the Control Station.

A standard form of phraseology would be agreed to and laid down for use between the Control Room and the bridge of vessels "requesting information" and the Control Officers would have a detailed knowledge of the Port Area and Approaches and be familiar with the movements of small vessels.

The Port Committee suggests that there should be trial runs in clear weather, over a period of several months, and Captains would be invited to make use of this service with a view to establishing confidence in the ability of the Port Radar to provide reliable information.

Shore-based Radar would be of value even when the vessel is so equipped for, apart from being in a position to reassure the Master navigating by his own radar, there is the advantage of being able to pass information concerning the "general situation" especially where topographical features intervene and reduce the view of the ship-borne radar.

Cow On Rampage

Berlin, Dec. 16.—A cow which broke loose from a Berlin railroad yard knocked down seven people, including two children, in a two-hour chase through the city.

The animal was caught when she settled down to graze in a public park.—Reuter.

Soekarno Elected Indonesia President

Jogjakarta, Dec. 16.—Dr Soekarno was elected today the first President of the United States of Indonesia—the independent nation for which he fought more than 20 years. It took only 15 minutes for the voters from all 16 states of the Dutch East Indies islands to choose him unanimously. He will be sworn in on Saturday.

He will formally take over when the United States of Indonesia comes into being as an equal partner of the Netherlands under the Dutch Crown on December 27.

Dr Soekarno has been President since 1945 of the Indonesian Republic, whose Jogjakarta government controls parts of Java and Sumatra. It is to have a major voice in affairs of the new nation.

Only a year ago, Dr Soekarno was a prisoner of the Dutch. Parachute troops had captured Jogjakarta and whisked him off into exile under a decree issued from the Dutch Governor General in Batavia.

TABLES TURNED

Now the tables are turned. The Republican leader is moving into the Dutch palace. It symbolises the birth of a new nation for 70,000,000 people who shout his name as their battle cry of freedom. Like many Indonesians, Dr Soekarno has no first name.

A Moslem, he likes to quote 11th-century Washington and to compare Indonesia's struggle for freedom to the American revolution.

Handsome and younger looking than his 49 years, Dr Soekarno talks easily, but hedges on controversial subjects. He is both a Social reformer and an opportunist. To further the cause of Indonesian nationalism, he will take help where he can get it—in the past from the Japanese.

Conservatives, who had regarded him as an extreme radical, now must rely on him to keep Indonesia from falling into the hands of more rabid revolutionists. — Associated Press.

EDITORIAL

The Recognition Question

It has been suggested that Mr. Bevin is exercised in his mind about recognition of the Chinese Communist Government because (a) it is not at the moment certain whether the Reds include the Colony as an objective among their "liberated areas"; (b) the delicacy of the status of Formosa in the event of a Chinese Communist invasion of the island after recognition has been extended. Unstated, is a third factor—that recognition cannot have strings attached to it. It is in this that is probably causing most concern to the British Cabinet today. Full diplomatic relations infer mutual rights and privileges which are not normally subject to special bargaining; they are inherent and are equally binding. On this basis the future attitude of any Chinese Government to Hongkong may be a matter for speculation, but it would be difficult to insist that it be a condition for recognition. It can be assumed that eventually the government of China will bring up the question of Hongkong's rendition. There are two approaches: belligerent, to the extent that China indulges in militant action; and diplomatic, through which channel the subject is discussed and debated, with a settlement finally reached that is mutually satisfactory. No evidence exists today that the Chinese Communists intend to pursue the first-mentioned line (and for that matter there is nothing as yet to indicate that they will even make the subject one of discussion along formal diplomatic lines). In any event, Hongkong is well prepared to deal with any offensive—militant or diplomatic. For this reason recognition must be treated on its own merits, i.e., what is the obvious government of China of today, and are normal relations with that

Authority desired? This does not suggest that the future status of Hongkong be sacrificed for a gesture of goodwill. On the contrary there must be the utmost vigilance to preserve its integrity. But that is our task and it is something which cannot be written into an act of recognition which is nothing more than the formalising of relations between two nations. The second suggestion that Britain may hesitate to extend recognition because of the internationally legal status of Formosa is even more complex. While it is technically correct to argue that Formosa remains a part of the Japanese Empire until a peace treaty is written and signed, and that, therefore, any invasion of the island brands the invaders as belligerents, the fact is that Formosa, under a well-defined agreement, is today again a part of China. There is nothing in the Cairo agreement which provides that only a Chinese Government of a certain political persuasion shall enjoy the right of administering the island pending the conclusion of a Japanese peace treaty and it would require repudiation of that agreement to deny the ruling government of China of the day the right to continue administration of Formosa. There seems to be no genuine reason why Britain (or any other Western nation that has recognised the Chinese Communists) should feel embarrassed if eventually Mao Tse-tung gains control of Formosa. Recognition is an act which neither implies approval or disapproval of the reigning government; if it can be given, equally so can it be withdrawn if circumstances arise which dictate such an action. The circumstances of the moment favour extension of recognition in its generally accepted form.

THOROUGH SURVEY

Western observers believe diplomats when they said that there is little question about the agenda of the Kremlin meetings which will take place in the next few days. They anticipated a thorough survey by Mao and Stalin of the present situation in China, how to consolidate the Communists' victory there, and where to push next in the expansion of Communism to rule that vast country and its 400 million people.

A purpose of the visit, other than to cement the Soviet-Chinese friendship, was not stated. But Western officials thought that Mao might seek financial and military aid. In a recent broadcast he mentioned budgetary problems created by the absorption of the surrendered Kuomintang armies into the Chinese Communist army.

There was no hint in the Moscow broadcast whether Mao's visit to Moscow was on his own or the Kremlin's initiative. But the Russian ambassador to Peking, N.V. Roschin, accompanied him on the long trip.

The radio said that a guard of honour was lined up at the station to welcome Mao, and hands played the national anthems of both the Soviet Union and Communist China.

The radio said that Mao replied to the official greetings with a message proclaiming Communist China's solidarity with the Soviet Union. Mao is saying: "The opportunity to visit at this time the capital of the Soviet Union, the first great socialist state in the world, is a very joyous event in my life. I found and firm friendship exists between the great peoples of China and the Soviet Union. After the October Socialist Revolution, guided by the policy (Continued on Page 24)

PERFUMES
the ideal gift for her!

HELENA RUBINSTEIN
JEAN PATOU
GUERLAIN
CHANEL
LANVIN

Also Assortment of
SCENT-SPRAYS

A.S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

LEE Liberty

DAILY AT
2.30, 5.15, 7.20 &
9.20 P.M.

DAILY AT
2.30, 5.30, 7.30 &
9.30 P.M.

• SHOWING TO-DAY •

Out Of The Dark Contin-
ent's Danger-ridden Dia-
mond Country Comes
Savage Greed... Salty
Love... Great Adventure!



Paramount presents
BURT LANCASTER PAUL HENREID CLAUDE RAINS PETER LORRE

in HAL WALLIS' PRODUCTION
"Rope of Sand"
with SAM JAFFE, and introducing CORINNE CALVET
Directed by WILLIAM DIETERLE

ADDED ATTRACTION
LATEST POPEYE CARTOON

"HOT AIR ACES"

EXTRA PERFORMANCE
TO-MORROW

11.30 A.M. at LEE 12.30 P.M. at LIBERTY

QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

QUEEN'S — 5 SHOWS TO-MORROW —
Extra Performance At 11.30 A.M.

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.
A GRIPPING STORY OF YOUTH IN
THE TOILS OF THE UNDERWORLD!

Yung Hwa presents

"LITTLE SHRIMP"

With Detailed English
Translations!



ALHAMBRA
TO-MORROW MORNING AT 12 NOON
WALT DISNEY'S
TECHNICOLOR CARTOONS
MICKEY MOUSE — DONALD DUCK — PLUTO
REDUCED PRICES: \$2.00; \$1.50; \$1.00

SHOWING TO-DAY **MAJESTIC** AIR-CONDITIONED
AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

SUNDAY EXTRA SHOW
AT 12.00 NOON MEN ONLY

HERE'S A PICTURE THAT...
WILL STARTLE YOU...
WILL AMAZE YOU...
WILL THRILL YOU...
as you see the results of indiscreet love!
at the face of life unveiled before your eyes!

Because of EVE
THE STORY OF LIFE!

FOR ADULTS ONLY!
SEGREGATED AUDIENCE BY ORDER.
DAILY 2.30 P.M. LADIES ONLY!
5.20, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M. MEN ONLY!

ALSO ADDED **"NANOOK OF THE NORTH"**



U.S. Dictator And Samson Compete For Film Honours

From FREDERICK COOK: New York

For a first-class lesson in American politics, do not miss the new Hollywood picture, "All the King's Men." It is also an exciting story, altogether one of the best pieces of film-making to come out of California this year.

"All the King's Men" is based on some aspects of the life of the late Huey Long. It bore for a time the label, "Not to be consumed off the premises."

Columbia Pictures, who made it, asked me to see it and tell them whether I thought it should go to London; would English audiences understand it?

ACTION-PACKED

My answer, on both counts: an enthusiastic yes. I believe most English people know enough of the man who rose to power in Louisiana with

good intentions, did, in fact, much good work, but turned into the first American dictator.

WATCH RUTH

People: Ruth Roman, my nomination for the star most worth watching in pictures of the year, draws Randolph Scott as her next film partner. Rex Harrison has decided not to continue acting in the play "Anne of the Thousand Days" which means that the show (now touring) will close at the year end. Emlyn Williams, playing lead here in "Montezuma," has been submitted to the usual quiz by the local papers: Who is the best actor in London? Williams tactfully replied: "It's a tie between Laurence Olivier and John Gielgud."

Those who remember the career of Kingfish Huey Long will appreciate the honesty and dramatic force of the picture; those who do not will still find it action-packed and a tremendous story.

On celluloid, the dictator's name is not Long, of course. It is Willie Stark. A tremendous performance is given by Broderick Crawford. And one to match it is given by Mercedes McCambridge as his admirer, secretary and mistress.

MURDER SCENE

Joanne Dru plays his society girl friend. The final murder scene is so realistic it might have been clipped from the newscasts of 20 years ago.

Competing with it for the title of Film of the Week is the new De Mille epic, "Samson and Delilah." This is one of the best of De Mille's Bible stories, if you like that sort of thing.

BROADWAY SACS

The legitimate stage is in such a poor way on Broadway that New York's constant assertion that there is really no theatre in London to speak of, while everything here is fine, is beginning to sound ridiculous.

Not for decades has there been so dull a season here. The season is now past the halfway mark. New productions total 17, against 20 last year.

At the last count, Broadway offered some 23 shows against London's 40.

In addition, there is nothing here remotely comparable with London's thriving theatre clubs where shows often of professional standard are produced for subscription audiences. As a matter of fact, what Broadway could use just now is an import or two from London.

THE NEW SHOWS

Among the new shows: Raymond Massey and Mandy Patinkin in Strindberg's "The Father"; Katharine Cornell, Torin Thatcher, Henry Stephenson in "That Lady" (Kate O'Brien's dramatization of her novel, "For One Sweet Hour"); Alexander Knox in his own melodrama, "The Closing Door," a murder mystery; "Regina," a musical version of Lillian Hellman's drama, "The Little Foxes," with Jane Pickens.

Pick of the new musicals (but it is no "Oklahoma" or "Kiss Me, Kate") is "Texas, Lili Darlin'" with Kenny Delmar, Danny Scholl, Mary Hatcher. None of these is half-marked for a West End triumph.

"I saw the movie about Captain Kidd," he added. "It was greatly exaggerated."

Murray doesn't demand, however, that the movie-makers adhere too strictly to the letter of truth. In "Double Crossbones," for instance, they assemble Henry Morgan, Captain Kidd, Blackbeard and Anne Bonney at a time when some had been dead for years and others were still in school.

"I heard about him and hired him to show the art department how to build pirate ships for another high seas epic, 'Buccanner's Girl'."

Now that Murray's been in Hollywood a while, he's beginning to wish he could get in front of the camera as Henry Morgan instead of standing behind it. It seems that Morgan looks okay.

Murray, known on the set as "The Commander," wears a beard just like a pirate and never appears without his navy cap.

"It's always been with me," he said, touching it tenderly. "It went in the water four times."

"I also," he added, "unwillingly went with it." — United Press.



RUTH ROMAN
The star most worth watching.
—(London Express Service)



FILMS FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS

Two technicolour musicals, a Damon Runyon comedy teaming Bob Hope and Lucille Ball with a new child discovery, Mary Jane Saunders, and a drama set against the background of the South African diamond mines round out a varied and entertaining selection of films for the cinemagoer at Christmas.

A film that will be first choice with many is "The Barkleys of Broadway" at the Queen's and Alhambra Theatres which brings together again a dance team that has been favoured of our cinemagoers now for quite a few years—Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire.

The story is an old one, rehashed over and over in every other musical, but the dance numbers are Rogers-Astaire specialties and many will see the picture more than once to learn the "Swing Trot."

A terpsichorean treat offered is a "Four Dances in One"

Bob Hope and Lucille Ball, "Sorrowful Jones," which will be the Christmas feature at the King's Theatre, has in it also the newest moppet to capture the hearts of all.



The story, adapted from the Damon Runyon's "Little Miss Marker," centres around Sorrowful Jones, a penny-pinching Broadway bookie who accepts a desperate bettor's young daughter as security for his wager.

The development of the plot leaves the child entirely on Bob's hands and the comedy develops in typical Hope fashion with horse dopers on the trail for his blood.

Lucille Ball, the "beautiful doll with plenty on the ball and who is honest, hep and terrific" of the Runyon story, helps Bob in the chores of playing parent. She starts in the story as a night club singer and there are nine songs, including "Sweet Adeline" and "Rock-A-Bye Baby" with Bob Hope joining in.

For sheer Runyonesque entertainment alone, the film is almost tops on the Christmas bill. Add everything else and many a fan might give it first choice. The holidays are long enough for the others as well.

Packed With Action

If you like your film entertainment charged with dramatic adventure, sensational action and intriguing romance—then Hal Wallis' "Rope of Sand," which is the Christmas offering at the Lee and Liberty Theatres, is a "must" on your movie list.

It is the kind of thriller that will keep you sitting on the edge of your seat and will send you home satisfied that you have seen as much excitement as the screen can hold.

"Rope of Sand" co-stars Burt Lancaster, Paul Henreid, Claude Rains, Peter Lorre and introduces luscious Corinne Calvet, Parisienne beauty, the only woman in the cast, on whom all eyes are understandably turned.

Miss Calvet portrays a seductive Capetown café girl who is hired by stockholder Rains to

Stromboli Now Movie-Minded

The volcanic island of Stromboli, Italy, will never be quite the same since Ingrid Bergman visited it for the filming of "Stromboli," made by Director Roberto Rossellini for RKO Radio.

Presence of the film troupe affected almost every one of the 700 inhabitants.

Village belles now wear their hair in the windblown manner of Miss Bergman, instead of the carefully braided coiffures of their mothers and grandmothers.

The children have learned to speak English. And although Stromboli is without a theatre, most of the people who have never seen a movie are now movie-mad.

A kindness of Miss Bergman, instead of the island of Stromboli to make their picture.

Bartolo, the son of a blind labourer, had impaired vision in one eye. When he was very

young he burned one of his legs severely from knee to ankle. It had never received proper medical attention, and the poor lad had difficulty dragging himself about the island's rugged terrain.

The physical handicaps made Bartolo extremely shy and self-conscious. He was afraid of people.

Miss Bergman and Rossellini noticed him one day, far on the fringe of a group of children home island, where they were and crews wherever they went.

The day they left Stromboli, Bartolo received a package of new clothing and an invitation to accompany them to Rome for medical treatment.

It will take three months for Bartolo's leg to be healed. During that time an eye surgeon will work on his eye.

The youngster is excited about his forthcoming return to his home island, where he hopes for the first time to become part of the crowd, instead of a pitiable shadow on the

Commencing To-day At 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

"I KNOW THE SHAME"
of being called an Outcast Woman!

JEANNE CRAIN
MADEIRA CARROLL
GEORGE SANDERS
RICHARD GREENE

But what could her kind of woman know of a mother's love? This picture will amaze — and deeply stir you!

The FAM

Produced and Directed by OTTO PREMINGER

Screen Play by Walter Reisch, Dorothy Parker and Hans Fama — Based on Oscar Wilde's "Lady Windermere's Fan"

TO-MORROW MORNING SHOW AT 11.30 A.M. —
Paramount Films presents
A VARIETY PROGRAMME OF COLORED CARTOONS
AT REDUCED PRICES

SHOWING TO-DAY **KING'S** AT 2.30, 5.00, 7.20 & 9.30 P.M.

"One of the greatest directors ever made!" —Damon Runyon

Charlie Chaplin
in his new comedy
The Great Dictator
Produced, written and directed by CHARLIE CHAPLIN
with PAULETTE GODDARD

TO-MORROW MORNING AT 11.30 A.M. —
"MIGHTY MOUSE CARTOONS"
PROGRAMME IN TECHNICOLOR
Presented by 20th-Century Fox
AT REDUCED PRICES

5 SHOWS TO-DAY **Cathay** At 12.30, 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

ANOTHER U.S.S. GREATEST PRODUCTION!
A THRILLING EPISODE — LITHUANIAN STRUGGLE AGAINST FASCISTS!

MARITE

AN U.S.S. PRODUCTION

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR ADVERTISING

Advertisers who have reserved special space during December and January are requested to submit copy well in advance.

In cases where the S.C.M.P. Art Department is supplying illustrations and blocks, particulars of requirements should be submitted immediately.

The GREATEST STORY EVER TOLD

AT the close of the day's work, Joseph sat in the back of his shop and emptied a palmful of coins from a crock taken down from a tall shelf. Ever since he had first seen Mary, he had saved every mite against his wedding day, which would not be long.

"Almost enough for every thing," he congratulated himself. "And my wife won't have to skimp and scrape. Tonight, he resolved, 'I will tell the family that we do not have to wait any more!'"

It was good to step abroad after the long day's work. Now and then the carpenter was saluted by a customer—a farmer, a shepherd, a blacksmith and he related every greeting with a sense of peaceful security.

Oh yes, he knew now that in Jerusalem the sophisticated looked down on the countryfolk. Nazarene yokels with a ridiculous northern accent. A favourite Jewish question: "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?"

But Joseph, with all his fellow townsmen, felt that the people of Jerusalem were unnatural and overcivilised. Anyway, he was proud of his home town and expected to be very happy there with Mary and children and work. What more could any man ask?

Just about a year was a long and, at its turning, was the house of Joseph and Anna, the mother of Mary, the white dove-like girl, the dark at one side of it, ran a staircase that led to the roof and looking up there Joseph saw Mary. She had a lantern in her hand and she was bending over, collecting dates and figs that had been spread out to dry in the hot sun. Knowing his foot steps, she straightened up and waved her hand.

Their Plans

THEN Joseph passed into the house with the freedom of the one who feels himself already a member of the family. Joachim strode forward, the two men bowed ceremoniously, and the younger man kissed the father's beard.

Joseph seated himself beside the older man, and plunged at once into his business. He had saved his money, he had improved the living quarters, behind the house, he was ready to buy a goat and hens and a rooster, he wanted his wife. Why should there be any delay?

"Who makes delays?" demanded Joachim. "The carpenter glanced uneasily at Anna."

"No, Joseph," said Mary's mother, looking over her shoulder as she patted the dough. "I will not stand in your way. I know now that you love Mary and that she loves you. There is really no sense in waiting. Have you fixed a date in your mind?"

"I want to marry her yesterday," joked Joseph, and they all laughed. "But no, I have not fixed any date. I want to talk with Mary after supper to-night. I would like it better that way."

Later, in the damp darkness of the Nazareth road, Joseph and Mary strolled and talked. They were full of their plans and felt a little awed, by them.



THE ANNUNCIATION

THE ETERNAL STORY—THE BIRTH AND DEATH OF JESUS CHRIST—RETOLD FAITHFULLY AND WITH IMPRESSIVE SIMPLICITY IN THE LANGUAGE OF TODAY. THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH IS PRIVILEGED TO PRESENT THE OPENING CHAPTER TODAY IN THIS SPECIAL CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

BY FULTON OURSLER

Completely occupied with a dozen small and enchanting details about their wedding, they were oppressed that soft evening with no foreboding.

It was late when they were ready to say good night, but they had come to a decision. Within three months they would be married. Joseph would have liked it earlier, but Mary pointed out that there was still sewing to do and a few more shekels her father wanted to accumulate, she knew, to fill out her modest dowry. Three months would not seem so long, now that the date was fixed.

I hope I see you early to-morrow," said Joseph when it was time for him to go home.

Very early Joseph. When I go to the well for the morning water," she promised.

Something Amiss

THEIR hands clasped and they parted. Joseph strode off, his head down, his feet heavy, his heart full of the thought that he had never heard before, bass and yet tender, "Full of grace!" the voice continued.

Had Mary, full of grace! She felt embarrassed and even more frightened.

"The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women." She folded her hands and she knew then how she was trembling in every muscle. The stranger saw.

"Fear not, Mary."

The Message

SHE bowed her head. She must not be afraid. She knew she could trust this deep and tender voice. But she could not still her quaking. She closed her eyes and listened to the astounding words this stranger was speaking. She had found grace with God. She would conceive in her womb and bring forth a son.

She too! That was akin to the message that had come to Zachary for Elizabeth. Cousin Elizabeth was to have a son and his name must be John.

And you shall call his name Jesus!

"Jesus! He will be my son. Jesus! Jesus, son of Mary! I shall bring him forth and hold him in my arms and sometimes I shall give him to Joseph to hold too!" Her mind was a place of wild, birdlike thoughts; yet she must listen to all that the stranger continued to tell her; her son Jesus was to have the throne of David, his father—

"And of all his kingdom there shall be no end."

Then came her instant need for reality. The very human impulse that had made Zachary question his angel and lost him his speech as pennily now possessed Mary, too. Who this stranger was she did not know; yet the maiden who heard his words felt bound to question him.

"How shall this be done?" she asked in a whisper. "Seeing I know not a man?"

In the starry blaze of his eyes she read only compassion. He took a step nearer and she saw the folded wings and knew him for what he was.

His voice lower and deeper still:

"The Holy Ghost shall come upon you. The power of the Most High shall overshadow you, and therefore also the Holy which shall be born of you shall be called the Son of God."

To Her Cousin

MARY felt stifled, suffocated, as she heard these incredible words. She to be the mother of a son who would be called the Son of God?

The voice of the stranger was lowered into an intimate whisper:

"Your cousin Elizabeth . . ."

He paused until she nodded, and then he went on:

"She also conceived a son. In her old age! This is the sixth month with her that is called barren. Because with God nothing shall be impossible!"

This was the reality she needed. For the angel had spoken truth as she knew it. It was true about Elizabeth. Well, then . . .

She looked up at him plaintively, her eyes half closed, her words coming so softly that she could barely hear herself speak.

"Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done unto me according to your word."

As if by incantation the angel vanished; one instant he was there, gone the next. Mary, away and murmuring, crossed the floor and sank to her knees and lay upon her pallet and closed her eyes and wept and prayed. Too much to understand! She wanted to scream for Anna and throw herself into those strong, stout arms and cry to her mother what had just happened. But she could not bring herself, even in the first agony of that hysteria, to risk certain disbelief. They would say she had imagined this thing because Elizabeth was having a child and Zachary had said he saw an angel.

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

"Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done unto me according to your word."

As if by incantation the angel vanished; one instant he was there, gone the next. Mary, away and murmuring, crossed the floor and sank to her knees and lay upon her pallet and closed her eyes and wept and prayed. Too much to understand! She wanted to scream for Anna and throw herself into those strong, stout arms and cry to her mother what had just happened. But she could not bring herself, even in the first agony of that hysteria, to risk certain disbelief. They would say she had imagined this thing because Elizabeth was having a child and Zachary had said he saw an angel.

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least of them, a rakehell from the Damascus bazaars, gave her a cup of flavoured water late one night and whispered:

"Where have you found such peace?"

There was no mirror for Mary to study; it would be days

called me . . . And God will protect her," he added, his voice breaking.

Joseph's faith was fully justified. As one under special protection, Mary traversed the weary distance. She had walked only a few miles when a small caravan overtook her and offered her a donkey to ride to the next town.

Brooding she was, all the way. The wayfarers were struck by a feeling of special separation that distinguished her. One of the least

His Majesty the King with Queen Elizabeth and taken in White Drawing Room of Buckingham Palace. Princess Margaret. This charming family group was



THE KING'S VOICE REACHES TO EVERY HOME IN THE EMPIRE THROUGH HIS CHRISTMAS BROADCASTS. HIS MAJESTY MAKES THESE BROADCASTS FROM HIS COUNTRY ESTATE AT SANDRINGHAM, IN NORFOLK, WHERE THE ROYAL FAMILY TRADITIONALLY SPENDS CHRISTMAS. EDWIN ROTH DESCRIBES SCENES THERE DURING THE HOLIDAYS.

Sandringham. Many of Wolfer-ton's inhabitants work on Sandringham estate. His sleepy station only awakes to lively activity when Royal guests arrive.

Immediately after the family's arrival, the Queen begins to supervise the final preparations for Christmas. The whole house is decorated with mistletoe and red-berried holly from the estate, and the children delight in helping to put up the decorations. Hundreds of Christmas cards are put up on the mantelpieces and sideboards throughout the house, giving a kaleidoscope of colour to the rooms. A 20-foot-high fir tree, specially selected from the woods, is taken into the ballroom, and the King and Queen help servants to decorate it with hundreds of coloured lights, glittering tinsel and glass ornaments which have been in the family for generations, as well as presents in coloured boxes.

On the morning of Christmas Eve, the King and the Duke of Gloucester dress in tweeds and go out shooting pheasants, for which the Estate is famous.

The room is a small Tudor musicians' gallery, and in a corner a polished grand piano stands near a modern radio-gram.

As the Royal Family settle around the lounge, the radio is tuned in to the B. B. C.'s traditional Christmas broadcast, which links all parts of the Commonwealth. The small boys are told to be quiet, and the King takes a last look through his sheaf of typewritten notes.

Some time before three o'clock, the King and Queen go into the King's study, which adjoins the lounge. There they are received by Mr. Wood, who tells them that everything is ready for the world broadcast. The King walks over to his large desk in the centre of the room, which has been completely cleared and contains two microphones and a red signal light.

As he sits down before the microphone, the King faces the windows, which look over the lawn. On the wall to his left hand is a

THE ROYAL FAMILY'S CHRISTMAS

FOR Britain's Royal Family, Christmas means a happy, care-free family gathering in that most informal of all Royal residences, Sandringham House, Norfolk. This is no castle and no palace, but just a spacious country mansion, standing in a large estate of 10,000 acres and looking like a picture from an old-fashioned Christmas card.

Sandringham is a place full of memories for its owners and guests. The King himself was born in New York Cottage on Sandringham Estate. King George V spent his last days at Sandringham House and died there in January 1936. Generations of happy Royal children have found their Christmas stockings packed with gifts in the Sandringham bedrooms, and have sung carols round the Sandringham Christmas tree.

Last year there was a break in the Sandringham Christmas tradition. Unable to travel through illness, the King spent Christmas with his family at Buckingham Palace. This year, with the anxiety for the King's health removed, the Royal Family are again at Sandringham.

The King always likes to have all his family around him at Christmas. With him and Queen Elizabeth at Sandringham are Queen Mary, Princess Margaret, Princess Elizabeth and for his first Sandringham Christmas—little Prince Charles. Prince Philip is spending this Christmas in Malta, where he is on duty with the Royal Navy.

The family party also included the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, with their two children—9-year-old Prince William and 5-year-old Prince Richard—and the Duchess of Kent with her 14-year-old son Prince Edward, and her daughter, Princess Alexandra, who celebrates her thirteenth birthday on Christmas Day.

The same day is also the forty-third birthday of the Duchess of Gloucester. The Royal Family's preparations begin many weeks before Christmas, when each member of the family buys a large number of Christmas presents. As a family, they are probably the largest buyers of Christmas gifts in the world. Queen Mary, in particular, spends countless hours choosing and supervising the dispatch of her presents, which number several thousand. She always sends out more gifts than her husband and when King George V died she added to her own long list the people who used to be his special thought.

QUEEN MARY'S presents always include valuable pieces of china, on which she is accepted to be one of the world's greatest experts. Much of the china in possession of various members of the Royal Family has been chosen by her and she herself is delighted when Queen Elizabeth or one of the Princesses present her with another charming item for her priceless collection.

Queen Elizabeth is an enthusiast for domestic embroidery, and special friends sometimes receive samples of beautiful work done by her own hand.

Some weeks before Christmas, Queen Elizabeth put on an apron and went into the kitchen for a most important function—the making of the Christmas pudding. She watched carefully as the chef put into a huge bowl the raisins, plums, almonds, bread crumbs, eggs and suet which are mixed according to a traditional recipe of the 17th century. When all was ready, she took a large wooden spoon and gave the mixture its first stir—"for luck." The chef and members of his staff then followed in turn.

When the Royal Family go to Sandringham, the Royal train arrives at the small station of Wolfer-ton, a little Norfolk village whose life turns around

between members of the family, who afterwards open their parcels with presents from other people.

There are many presents for the Royal Family, but not nearly as many as most people think. According to strict rules, the Royal Family accept presents only from official bodies, and from close personal friends. In fact, a special staff is engaged ever Christmas in re-wrapping and sending back hundreds of presents from individuals who do not know about this rule.

After breakfast, all members of the Royal Family go to attend Divine Service in the small Sandringham Church, which stands on the Estate near Sandringham House. If the weather is at all suitable, they walk across to the Church, while many people line the pathway to see them.



Princess Elizabeth with her son, Prince Charles, who will spend his first Christmas at Sandringham this year. The Princess is remaining over the holidays in Malta with the Duke.

large roll-top desk covered with Christmas cards, and behind the King's left a log fire burns in a corner fireplace bridging two walls. Immediately behind the King is a door leading to the control room, where the engineers work at their switch-board.

The two microphones before the King are not, as is widely believed, gold microphones for his special use. They are two ordinary B. B. C. standard microphones. Each is connected to a completely independent telephone line, going by different routes to Broadcasting House, London, so that if one line should break down during the broadcast the other one would still carry the speech. A third line, going to London by yet another route, is held in reserve.

MR Wood asks the King to read a few sentences of his speech into the microphones, so that the sound volume may be adjusted by the engineers. After a few seconds, Broadcasting House checks back by telephone and all is ready. A few moments before three o'clock the Queen leaves the study and rejoins the party in the lounge, for the King insists on being utterly alone in the room when he broadcasts.

The red light on the King's desk flickers in warning and remains steady. Slowly and carefully, the King reads his speech into the microphone. For him, this is the climax of the night. It is not just another broadcast, but his most personal contact of all with countless millions of his subjects all over the world, who listen to him in their own homes. It is not a speech, but a friendly chat to families round their hearth.

When the King has finished and the red light has gone out, the Queen and other members of the Royal Family come into the study to discuss the broadcast. The King asks the engineers how it went off, and is glad to hear that Broadcasting House telephoned that there was no hitch in the complicated arrangements. For a while the members of the Royal Family chat with the engineers, who are the only "outsiders" at Sandringham on Christmas afternoon.

Between 4.30 and five o'clock, tea is served. There are also birthday cakes for the Duchess of Gloucester and young Princess Alexandra.

After tea, the entire Royal Family go to the ballroom, where the Royal servants and estate workers are assembled round the Christmas tree. Every one of the workers and servants is given a personal present from the tree by the King and Queen.

THE evening is spent with family fun. The King and Queen forget their work of State and become the happy parents, the proud grandparents and the adored uncle and aunt. There are coloured hats, crackers, cakes and sweets for the children, who play with their new toys. Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret play the piano, and favourite records are put on the radio-gram.

It is one of those occasions when Princess Margaret, the family's most vivacious member and an accomplished actress and mimic, can be counted on to provide most of the fun.

Before the King and Queen leave Sandringham after Christmas to return to Buckingham Palace, there is a special traditional occasion very popular among all at Sandringham. It is the Servants' Ball. During this, the King, the Queen and the Princesses dance with their butlers, footmen and maid-servants.

WHITEAWAYS

(WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO., LTD.)
 POST BOX 470 HONG KONG TELEPHONES: 20092 32567

ALL BRITISH X'MAS GIFTS

OUR SELECTION IS BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER

GIFTS FOR MEN	GIFTS FOR WOMEN	GIFTS FOR CHILDREN
VAN HEUSEN SHIRTS IN VARIOUS STYLES. DRESSING GOWNS IN WOOL AND SPUN RAYON. POPLIN PYJAMAS. SOCKS IN CASHMERE, COTTON OR RAYON. KREMENTZ JEWELLERY IN STUDS, LINKS, ETC. GLOVES OF EVERY KIND. TIES: A WONDERFUL SELECTION IN SILK OR WOOL. SCARVES: WOOL, CASHMERE AND SILK. HANDKERCHIEFS: ALL KINDS. FITTED DRESSING CASES. HAIR BRUSHES. SHOES AND SLIPPERS. FUR FELT HATS. SUIT LENGTHS. OVERCOAT LENGTHS. BRACES AND GARTERS. FORBURY RAINCOATS IN FAWN OR NAVY. ENGLISH WATERPROOF UMBRELLAS. DARKS BLACKS AND SPORTS JACKETS. WOLSEY PULLOVERS. PRINGLES UNDERWEAR AND OUTERWEAR. LONDON MADE OVER-COATS.	POMPADOUR PEARLS. CORO JEWELLERY. HANDBAGS IN CALF AND MOROCCO LEATHER. TARTAN NOVELTIES: SEWING BAGS, PIN CUSHIONS, NEEDLE CASES, ETC. FITTED WORK BOXES. NEEDLE WORK TAPES. TRIES BY PENELOPE COMPLETE WITH WOOL. ROGER & GALLEY PERFUMES. YARDLEYS: DUSTING POWDER, LAVENDER, PERFUME AND GIFT SETS. LOVELY BEAUTY CASES. SMART DRESSING CASES. SCENT SPRAY SETS. 4711 EAU DE COLOGNE. GLOVES OF EVERY KIND. STOLES, SQUARES, ETC. LACE HANDKERCHIEFS. SILKS AND WOOLLENS. NOVELTY UMBRELLAS. BED JACKETS: WOOL AND QUILTED SILK. MORNING GOWNS: WOOL AND CORDUROY VELVET. BLOUSES IN SILK AND GEORGETTE. AND MANY OTHER USEFUL PRESENTS.	GREY FLANNEL SHORTS: ENGLISH LEATHER SHOES. BOYS' DUSTER SUITS. GIRLS' 'CHILPRUPE' FROCK & CARDIGANS. KID AND WOOL GLOVES. PARTY FROCKS IN ORGANDIE AND NET. LONDON TAILORED COATS. INFANTS' KNITTED COATS. EMBROIDERED PRAM COATS. KNITTED BREECHETTE: SETS IN SOFT WOOL. BIBS: ALL COLOURS, NICELY EMBROIDERED. FEEDERS, APPLIED. QUILTED SHOES IN PASTEL SHADES. ALSO KID SHOES. INFANTS' SILK FROCKS. 'CHILPRUPE' FROCK AND KNICKER SETS. 'CHILPRUPE' MATINEE COATS FOR INFANTS. ALSO KNITTED WOOL MATINEE COATS. INFANTS' NET SOCKS IN ALL COLOURS. A WONDERFUL SELECTION OF TOYS AND GAMES FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES.

ALSO GIFTS FOR THE HOME:—CANTEENS OF CUTLERY, SMALL CASES OF CUTLERY, BEAUTIFUL CRYSTAL, ROYAL DOULTON FIGURINES, BESWICKWARE IN VASES AND ANIMALS, STUART CRYSTAL CHINAWARE, LINEN TABLECLOTHS, SHEETS, BLANKETS, etc.

ALL AT POPULAR PRICES

OPEN TO-DAY UNTIL 5 P.M. AND ON SAT. DEC. 24TH

WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO., LTD.



Here's how you can shop all the way down your X'mas shopping list during but one shopping expedition.

FOR THE HOME LOVERS we have TABLE CLOTH SETS—Irish Linen or Rayon * SMOKERS' STANDS for the man of the house * HANDSOME OCCASIONAL TABLES * TRAYS * GUEST TOWELS * LAMP SHADES * CUSHIONS and lots more gifts that last.

SHE'LL REALLY TREASURE A HANDBAG and we have a delightful selection for DAY TIME or EVENING WEAR—All made in England by John Douglas (who makes handbags for H.M. The Queen).

We have PERFUMES and COLOGNES from all the better perfumers. * YARDLEY, REVLO and MAX FACTOR GIFT SETS and a complete range of all ELIZABETH ARDEN'S cosmetics.

Van Heusen SHIRTS * PYJAMAS by Vivella and Bonsoir * DRESSING GOWNS in wool and mohair by Jaeger * CASHMERE PULLOVERS, SLIPOVERS and WAISTCOATS * SOCKS * TIES * GLOVES—gifts to please any man.

If you haven't yet visited TOYLAND along the Mezzanine Floor, then hurry along before all those wonderful TOYS, BOOKS AND GAMES are gone—all the splendid toys we haven't seen for many years are back, and lots more new ones too.

And don't forget—if you can't decide what to buy, we have GIFT VOUCHERS that may be made out to any desired amount.

Ham & Crawford's
 THE COLONY'S GIFT CENTRE

The Greatest Story Ever Told

(Continued from Page 4)

from their sins. Then the dream ended.

Slowly Joseph awakened. Eyes open, Joseph found himself muttering a prophecy from old Scriptures—the words of the great Isaiah:

"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign. Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son."

And then Joseph turned a little cold at a new thought that rushed upon him. He would marry Mary, yes, and help bring up her supernatural son. Joseph did not know it, but even as Mary changed, so he was changing now, changing into a great man. He could do that because he possessed what is called the gift of faith. He would marry Mary. And he would be her most intimate spouse. Lying there in the immeasurable dark, Joseph renewed his betrothal vows.

It had been a very simple wedding in Mary's house; afterwards, Joseph, arm around his bride, led her down the long and muddy street and proudly through the open door.

From their first moment alone together they knew perfect companionship. There was a marriage based on the yearning of soul for soul, unbound to the earth; they were profoundly in love, so that they felt closer than any union possible to mere

humanity, knowing a richness of delight that lay beyond the reach of flesh.

How very curious, Joseph sometimes found himself thinking. While all Israel was in trouble, the people hoping and praying for the promised Deliverer, Mary was carrying in her womb a miraculous child.

"Ah, if it should really be so, Mary—"

"God will show," she whispered, hushed and scared. "We must wait!"

To Bethlehem

ONLY that afternoon new tales had come from Jerusalem of the scheming of Herod to lay new taxes on the backs of the people.

"How can we pay?" a traveller railed. "We are starving already. Our herdsmen tend lambs that they cannot eat. We are all undernourished. More, now, this Arab king is thinking about."

Not long afterwards Joseph learned that this visitor had known what he was talking about—the news came just when Joseph had begun to worry about Mary's condition. The village midwife and Anna both agreed that the time was not far off for her child to be born.

It was then that the word spread through every street in

Nazareth of a new flat from Rome; there was to be an empire-wide census. The word had an ominous sound in Israel; the people had an ancient, almost superstitious aversion to being counted.

But the orders for this colossal undertaking came down straight from the Emperor himself; an imperial command from Caesar Augustus; every one of his subjects was to be enumerated.

"And for what?" asked the little dyer in his shop down the street from Joseph. "Why?"

"Because they are going to increase the taxes and no one must get out of paying."

The most disturbing fact to Joseph was that it meant a long journey for him when he felt he was needed at Mary's side. To remain in Nazareth and be counted was impossible, because under the ruling each person must be registered in the city headquarters of the tribe to which he belonged.

They must leave at once to be in Bethlehem on the appointed day!

The next morning they began their journey.

(TO BE CONTINUED ON MONDAY)

LISTEN TO THE

LATEST RELEASES



IN MOUTRIES' NEW

Controlled-Air Sound-Proofed LISTENING LOUNGES!

It's a new Moutries you'll see if you come in now! Restful lounges where you can listen to the records you'll want for the Xmas season — all around, the fascination of music and fine instruments that make it!



Highest Grade DUTCH CIGARS for Christmas

GULDEN VLIES BRAND

Prices ranging from \$17.50 to \$32.50 per Box of 25.

INGENHOHL'S
Gloucester Arcade.

PETRIFACTION

.... A hanging stocking and a peculiar draught the Christmas holiday experience of childhood that remained vividly in the memory

By ALASDAIR IAN CAMPBELL

CURRASHELLISH, my Aunt Una's house, lay about half a mile back from the great sickle beach of Killanachan Bay, just on the edge of the willow-fringed stretch of marshland from which it took its name. (Currasshellish means "the marsh of the willows.") It is many years since I was last there in the flesh to see it, but I can remember every detail of the picture that suddenly formed itself as you turned off the machair road into the long, stony drive.

I could draw it now on this piece of paper: the crazy, although of the house, which was of the Scots Baronial style but built fairly late in the 19th century with a wealth of extravagant ornamentation; the scraggy fir-trees, affording some shelter to the garden but none to the house itself, which would often quiver under the lash of Atlantic gales; and looming behind, away beyond the silver-green marsh and the dark peat-bogs, the humped and ragged bulk of the Scouran mountains.

This, too, I recall clearly: the melancholy warbling of the curlews which inhabited the wet wastelands between the house and the hills. Above the rattling of the old waggone which would fetch us from the West Highland line station at Killanachan, these mournful cries seemed to contain the very essence of a dead world. I felt that, even as a child, although, of course, I would be incapable of expressing my feeling—except, perhaps, by smuggling up more closely to my mother.

I SPENT many holidays at Currasshellish when I was a small child. Una Macneil was not really my aunt, but a distant cousin of my mother. She was a widow and had a family of two boys and a girl: Iain, Rory, and Elizabeth. Iain I hardly ever saw, for he was grown-up and had a medical practice in Edinburgh. Rory was usually home from Glasgow University during my visits, but he was normally deep in his studies; in any case, he would have little to say to a boy of six or seven years. Elizabeth, who is four years older than I,

his whiskery face to my mother and said gruffly: "Would you be a believer in ghosts and things of that sort, now, Mrs Campbell?" Mother laughed. "Good heavens!" she exclaimed, "I should hope not."

"Aye, just so," Mr McGeoch grunted, and turned his head away. "But why did you ask me that?" my mother inquired. "Ach," he said, "it was nothing but a thought passing through my head." And that was that.

Aunt Una and Rory and Elizabeth were at the door to meet us. Their welcome was as warm as ever, but there seemed to be something curious in the air; perhaps it was because I was so young that I could sense it, for adults can be deceptively insensitive to the more delicate shades of atmosphere. It was a sense of something being withheld: nothing much, perhaps, but something.

Anyhow, we all had tea together in Aunt Una's sitting room downstairs, and then mother and I went upstairs to our rooms. Rory and Elizabeth helped to carry our cases. Half-way up the dimly-lit staircase, my mother started. "Goodness," she exclaimed, "what on earth is that?"

I looked up. Hanging on the wall above the stairs, a little way above the landing where the bathroom was, there was what appeared to be a human leg, stiff and chalk-white.

Elizabeth gave an uneasy sort of giggle. "A stupid thing," said Rory in his dour fashion. "It's an old stocking Iain found in a ruin over by Killanachan when he was home last week. He stuck it up there, the Lord knows why."

My mother moved forward a little and stopped again. "A stocking? But it's—but it's full of something!"

Rory stirred a little, as though impatient, and Elizabeth giggled again. "It's petrified," Rory said.

"Petrified?"

Rory condescended to explain: "Yes; you know—there are wells in some places with water in them that will turn things into stone, limestone. It

was my constant companion when I was at Currasshellish—many years later she almost became my wife, but that is another story.

On the day before Christmas Eve of 1912, my mother and I arrived from Glasgow at Killanachan station, and were met as usual by Mr McGeoch and his waggone. He was a silent man, not given to small talk of any sort, and it was usual for him on such journeys to say nothing whatsoever after the normal courtesies had been exchanged. But on this occasion, when we were about half-way along the drive, he turned

and said: "What an extraordinary thing!" my mother remarked, and that was all she said about it at the time. I myself was experiencing a curious sort of fear, not so much because of the queer look of the white object hanging from a nail in the wall, as because I must have realised with a child's intuition that Rory and Elizabeth were keeping something from us.

Always on the day of arrival at Currasshellish I was allowed to stay up rather late. That evening we were all in the

dining room, sitting round the fire, the grown-ups talking and Elizabeth and I trying to build a house of playing-cards. A coal fell out of the fire on to the hearth-stone, and my mother, in putting it back with the tongs, got some soot on her hands. She went upstairs to wash, and in a minute or two was back, shivering; she went straight to the fire.

"Err. There are some queer draughts in this house now, Una," she said in a moment.

My aunt looked up from her knitting. Elizabeth gave her sly little giggle again.

"For goodness' sake, shut up!" said Rory irritably to Elizabeth. "Do be quiet, you twot!" my aunt said to them, and then, turning to my mother, she asked her quietly: "What do you mean, Meg?"

"THE queerest thing," mother said uneasily. "When I was up in the bathroom just now, both the door and the window were shut. And then suddenly there was a gust of icy wind on my head. It almost froze me."

"Was that all?" Aunt Una asked.

Mother looked at her curiously. "As a matter of fact, it wasn't all," she replied.

"I know what it was, I know, I know," Elizabeth suddenly began to chant.

"Tell me, then," said my mother, but it was Aunt Una who replied: "When you came over from the wash-basin and opened the door, that gust came again and seemed to jostle you on to the landing. Was that it?"

"Yes," my mother said slowly, "yes, just like that. Is there a crack in the wall or something?" And then she added, before Aunt Una could say anything: "It's strange, though, for it's really quite mild outside—why should the draught be so icy cold, I mean?"

"But it's not a draught, Aunt Meg!" Elizabeth cried, as though on the point of blowing up. "What was the secret she was keeping coked with such great difficulty?"



A Wonderful Selection

IN
GOLD JEWELLERY
SILVER WARES
CRYSTALS
E.P.N.S.
&
PEARLS
ETC., ETC.

AT
JOHN JAMES & CO.
JEWELLERS.

8, PEKING RD., KOWLOON. TEL. 58478.

FIVE MINUTES EACH WEEKEND—



WITH THE WORLD'S WISEST MEN . . .

PICTURED here is Confucius, famed for 2,500 years as a philosopher (and, to the irreverent, not least for the catchphrase, "Confucius — he say").

WELL, what DID he say? BUT first who was he?

HE was born in a town now part of modern Shantung. Both parents poor. First job was in a granary where he was noted for fair measure. He became a great teacher. During his 72 years he taught 3,000 students. IF you had to sum up his philosophy in a single sentence, it would be: you can't have political order without moral order first.

HE used eating, drinking, hunting, and music. He was fastidious about food.

TO RECOGNISE what things you know, and what things you do not know—this is wisdom.

I WON'T teach a man who is not anxious to learn. If I explain one-fourth and the man doesn't go back and reflect and think out the implications, I leave the remaining three-fourths for himself. I won't bother to teach him again.

BY LOOKING at a man's faults, you know the man's character.

I PREFER vulgar people to the snobs.

DO NOT worry about people not knowing your ability, but rather worry that you have not got it.

A GENTLEMAN blames himself, while a common man blames others.

POLISHED SPEECH often confuses our notion of what is good and bad.

IT IS man that makes truth great and not truth that makes man great.

WE DON'T know yet about life, how can we know about death?

SIMPLICITY OF character is near to true manhood and loyalty is near to sincerity of heart.

A MAN who has committed a mistake and doesn't correct it is committing another mistake.

A MAN who loves truth (or learning) is better than the man who knows it, and the man who finds happiness in it is better than the man who loves it.

THE SUPERIOR man understands what is right, the inferior man understands what will sell.

A SCHOLAR who intends to follow the truth and is ashamed of his poor dress and poor food is not worth talking to.

A GENTLEMAN is ashamed that his words are better than his deeds.

A YOUNG man loves women, a middle-aged man loves struggle, an old man loves money.

IF A man's natural qualities exceed his training, he is uncultivated; if his training exceeds his natural qualities, he is a little more than an educated jackey. It is only when the natural qualities and the training harmoniously complement each other that we

have the gentleman.

A SUPERIOR man hates those who are sure of themselves and narrow-minded.

EDUCATION BEGINS with poetry, is strengthened through self-discipline, is consummated through music.

READING WITHOUT thinking gives one a disorderly mind.

IN ORDER to understand one's true self, it is necessary to obtain a wide and extensive knowledge of what has been said and done in the world.

IT MATTERS not what you learn, but once you learn a thing you must never give it up until you have mastered it.

AMONG THE means for the regeneration of mankind those made with noise and show are of the least importance.

SENSITIVENESS TO shame is akin to courage.

THAT TYPE of scholarship which is bent on remembering things in order to answer people's questions does not qualify one to be a teacher.

FEEL KINDLY towards everyone, but be intimate only with the virtuous.

LEARNING WITHOUT thought is useless; thought without learning is dangerous.

WHEN YOU see a man of worth, think of how you may emulate him. When you see one who is unworthy, examine your own character.

A YOUNG person should be treated with the utmost respect. How do you know that he will not, some day, be fully equal of what you are now?

IT is the man who has reached the age of 40 or 50 without ever having done anything to distinguish himself who is not worthy of respect.

TO GO too far is as bad as to fall short.

IF, WHEN you look into your own heart, you find nothing wrong there, what is there to worry about, what is there to fear?

DO NOT wish for quick results, nor look for small advantages. If you seek quick results you will not attain the ultimate goal. If you are led astray by small advantages you will never accomplish great things.

IF A man does not constantly ask himself: "What is the right thing to do?" I really don't know what is to be done about him.

LANGUAGE SHOULD be such as fully to convey one's meaning, but no more.

THE ESSENTIALS of good government are: plenty of food, a strong army, and the confidence of the governed.

IF WE could all be courteous for even a single day the hatreds of humanity would turn to love.

THE DUTY of young people is to work hard and leave the wine and cakes to their elders.

YOU CAN cheat an honest man, but you cannot fool him.

TO KNOW what is the straight and honest thing to do, and not to do it, is sheer cowardice.

(London Express Service)

A.S. Watson & Co., Ltd

Best



Wishes

Wine Dept.

CHATER ROAD

Tel 31261

ENGLISH SAYINGS ABOUT CHRISTMAS

MANY old adages contain much truth; scientists admit today. Here are a few which were once part of the common speech of the English countryside, together with a sad little doggerel which calls up a picture of a silent, snowy, starlit night:

As far as the sun shines on Christmas,
So far will snow blow in May.

If the sun shines through the apple tree on Christmas Day
there will be good crops the following year.

A Warm Christmas, a Cold Easter,
A green Christmas, a White Easter,

A light Christmas, a heavy sheaf,
Wind on Christmas Day, much fruit,

A wet Christmas makes empty barn and barrel,

Snow at Christmas brings good haycock next year.

In the town of Bewdley in Worcestershire, it was the custom for the bellman (a man authorised to go round a town calling out items of urgent news, articles found or missing, and so on) to make a circuit of the houses in the early hours of Christmas morning, ringing his bell and singing the following doggerel; the last word seems to suggest a heartfelt sigh:

"Arise mistresses, arise,
And make your tarts and pies,
And make your maids lie still;

For if they should rise
and spoil your pies
You'd take it very ill.

Whilst you are sleeping
in your bed
I the cold wintry night
must tread,

Past twelve o'clock.
Ehe!"

Why we eat turkey (when we can get it) on Christmas Day

ACROSS the shires of England as December darkness falls men sit up and watch their turkeys with shotguns, just as the Border farmers once guarded their cattle from the Scottish rovers.

We do not really change so much after all. But today Christmas would not be itself without a turkey.

And yet the most important facts about this astonishing bird are—

1. It has nothing to do with Turkey . . . nothing whatever.
2. It has no traditional, historical or national connection with Christmas.

There is much to be said for the turkey and against him. His stalling gait named one of the first dances of our contemporary school of swing, the "Turkey Trot". The way he speaks his mind, noisily, vigorously, and outspokenly, when he flutters and bristles all the 25 quills in his wing and the 18 in his double tail, and the floppy caruncles that hang upon his head stands upright in his wrath, has given the American people a phrase, "to talk turkey" when they mean to talk straight.

LAUGHING STOCK

His innate stupidity and bluster (when wild turkeys gather to cross a stream they do it with the maximum of fuss and bother and usually drop into it when they attempt to fly across) have made the unfortunate creature a laughing stock in both the Americas from which he hails.

But the turkey has virtues too. There is no better mother than the hen bird, who shepherds her flock of chicks around (turkeys seldom lay more than 15 eggs in a year); long after they have grown competent to care for themselves.

She is zealous to guard them against all enemies, and their greatest enemies are not black marketeers, but their own fathers, who cannot abide the infant bird.

His habitat is America: North America and South America.

In Britain there are two species of turkey, the smaller sort, called the Norfolk Turkey, and the Cambridge Turkey, which has a metallic sheen to its feathers.

The Norfolk Turkey comes from North America and the Cambridge Turkey comes from South America.

Both of them have been in Britain as domestic fowls these 400 years.

THE PILGRIMS

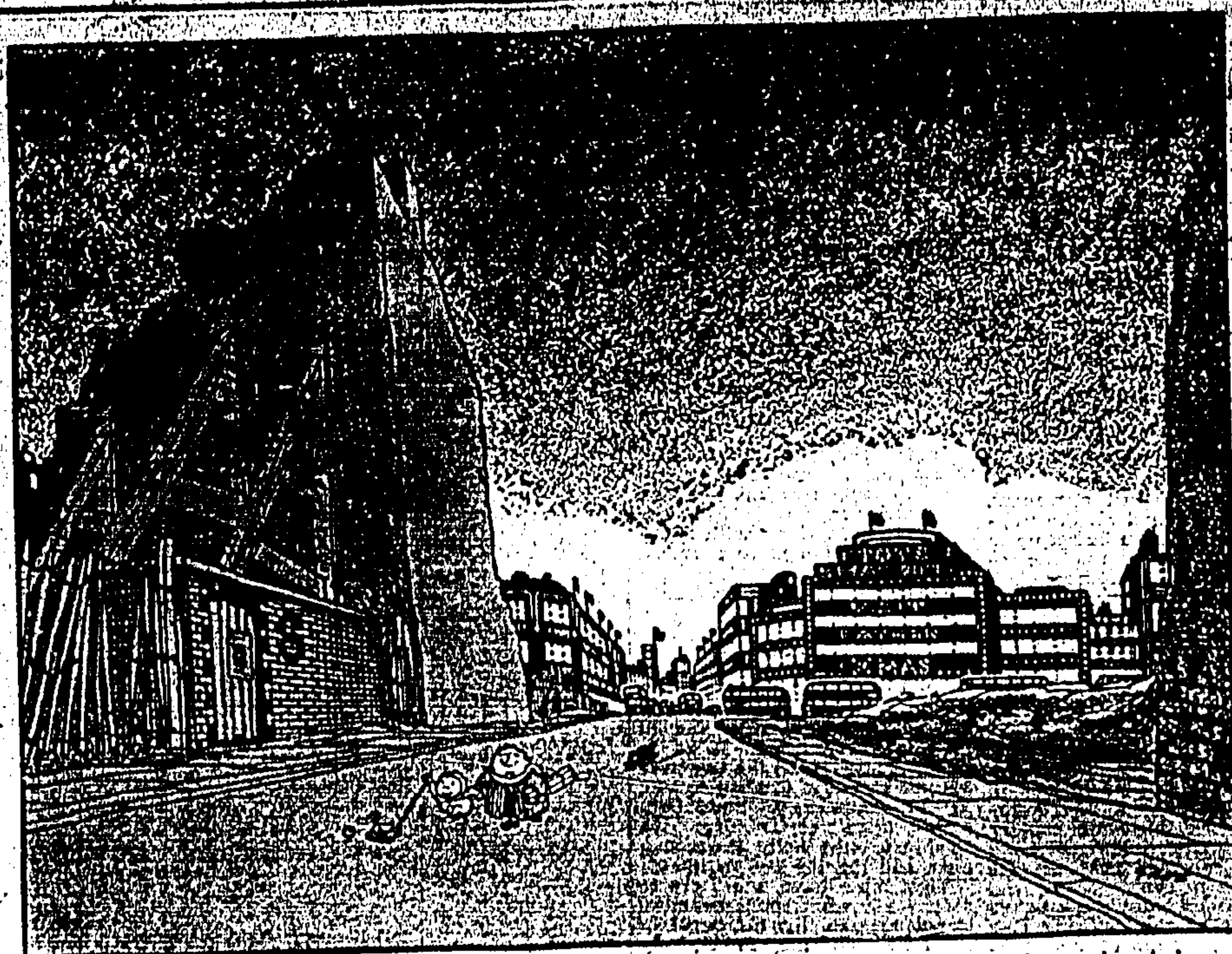
When the first Spanish conquerors of Mexico brought the earliest turkeys into Europe (that was about 1530) Jewish merchants introduced them to Greece, then part of the Turkish Empire.

Sharp-witted Greeks were swift to see a likeness between the new bird and their old lords. It strutted pompously. It was inflated with dignity, above all it had a little red headpiece like the fez cap that a Turk wore. So they called it the turkey.

We ought to call it a Yankee. True it has been driven out of New England for many years. But when the Pilgrim Fathers landed on Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts, on Christmas Day, 1620, they abandoned there. So these Pilgrim-Fathers, not down to a thanksgiving meal.

They slew the big wild birds (the birds we now call turkeys), and solemnly offered up their gratitude for a safe deliverance. These Pilgrims were all Englishmen and women. And their great occasion found its echo in the Mother Country.

That is why we have been eating turkeys on Christmas Day ever since.



"Christmas is not like it was when I was young—we had real tin hats, parties down the shelter, lovely boxes of anti-gas ointment to put on the soles of Auntie Aggie's shoes." London Express Service

WHO WAS GOOD KING WENCESLAS?

The romantic story of a hero prince who was murdered by his brother at the church door

By R. H. BRUCE LOCKHART

Wenceslas's name, and fitted him to a beautiful medieval tune which had previously been used for a spring carol. Born in 907, Wenceslas was the grandson of Boleslav, the first Christian Prince of Bohemia, and of Ludmilla, the first Czech saint. His father, Wratislav, fell fighting against the Hungarians in 920, and during the period of Wenceslas's minority the reins of power were placed in the hands of his mother, Drahomira. Wenceslas and his brother Boleslav were entrusted to the care of Ludmilla.

DRAHOMIRA was no ordinary woman. She was ambitious and loved power. Her fiery character, too, had been only imperfectly suppressed by the adoption of Christianity. Among the Bohemian nobles there were two parties: one Christian and pro-Ludmilla, the other pagan and anti-Ludmilla. Drahomira sided with the pagans and, directly, or indirectly, was responsible for the murder of her saintly mother-in-law.

After running considerable dangers, Wenceslas assumed control of his principality in 925. He was then 18. His most important contribution to history was his peace treaty with Henry the Fowler, by making terms with that powerful monarch he saved the Slavs of Central Europe from extinction.

He was, however, too advanced for his times, and his brother Boleslav, secure of the support of the pagan party determined to murder him. He therefore invited Wenceslas to a banquet at his castle. When Wenceslas arrived, the conspirators had planned to kill him at the banquet. Thrice he fled, but each time he was caught by his enemies. Thrice they stood up with murder in their hearts, "but God, desiring perchance to let the following day (on which as yet no festival fell) become Saint's Day, did not permit them . . . to accomplish their designs."

The conspirators therefore determined to kill Wenceslas on his way to church the next morning. For this purpose they caused the doors of the church to be bolted so that the Prince could not find sanctuary.

As Wenceslas approached the church, Boleslav ran from his hiding place and struck the first blow. Wenceslas caught the sword with his bare hand, but not wishing to stain his soul with the crime of fratricide, he threw it on the ground. Boleslav's followers then rushed forward, and with swords and spears despatched the unfortunate Prince as he lay in vain to escape the church door.

This is the story of the death of Wenceslas, a Christian prince who was murdered by his brother at the church door.

Catholics all over the world and his own countrymen have invested his name with rich legends of legend. There are a thousand stories of his saintliness, how he vowed himself to lifelong chastity, how he wore a hair shirt under his magnificent robes. "Thus shining equally before God and man," how he was assiduous at the Divine Service and daily made an offering of wheat and tithing and pressing the grapes with his own hands in order to prepare the bread and wine.

The story of his nightly pilgrimages to the poor dates back to the earliest chroniclers. They relate how, disguised as a forester, and accompanied only by his faithful page, Poldevin, he would go into the woods in the coldest weather to cut wood for the needy. By treading in his master's footsteps the page did not feel the cold. It is this legend which inspired the English carol. Poldevin, incidentally, escaped and fled the country on the morning of his master's murder. Returning later, he seized and slew one of the murderers, but was subsequently captured by Boleslav and hanged on the spot.

Side by side with these legends of the religious Wenceslas stands the legend of Wenceslas or Vojlav, as the Czechs call him, the patron-saint of Bohemia. Throughout the centuries he has been the long struggle for liberty. His lance, borne at the head of the Czech armies, presaged victory. The Hussites, who bore his image on their shields, attributed their successes to his protective influence.

If his carol is not sung in his own country there is a Wenceslas candle which for five hundred years has been the national anthem of the Czechs. It was sung by the Hussites. It was sung during the dark years after the battle of the White Mountain. It was sung during the revolutionary movement of 1848, when the Czechs strove in vain to throw off the Austrian yoke. It was sung clandestinely, because it was forbidden by the Austrians, during the Great War.

Today, its two most famous lines, Saint Wenceslas, remember thy race, thy people, suffer not us or our children to perish, adorn the great Wenceslas statue on the Wenceslas Square in Prague. Wenceslas, in fact, has become the national hero of his people. His statue in the Trnava Square of Prague, and if ever Czechoslovakia goes to war, it will be on the steps of his statue that her officers will sharpen their swords.

Very curious is this double interpretation, which has made of Wenceslas to his people a kind of Nelson, and to the rest of the world a symbol of the Christian virtues.

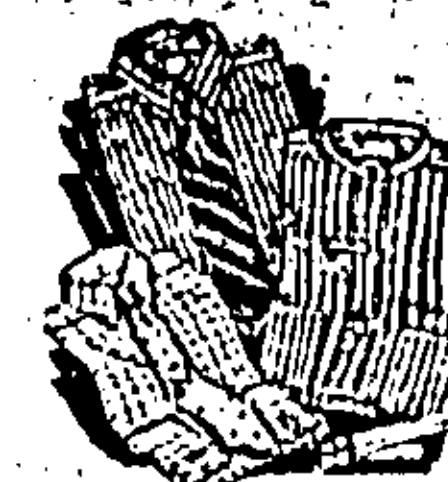
We, in our turn, need not be ashamed that year after year our boys expatiate "to teach our children" "Good King Wenceslas" and thus to remember the Czech Bohemian Prince who, possessing great power,

spurned them and gave to the poor.

Charity and service to our neighbours are still the greatest and, to put them at their lowest value, the most satisfying of all the Christian virtues. And today, more than ever, the words are true: "Therefore Christian men be sure, Wealth or rank possessing, Ye who now will bless the poor Shall yourselves find blessing."



GIVE HIM SHIRTS & TIES



Shirts & Ties are gifts appreciated by any man. Your problem can be much simplified at the choice from our diversified stock of established brands.

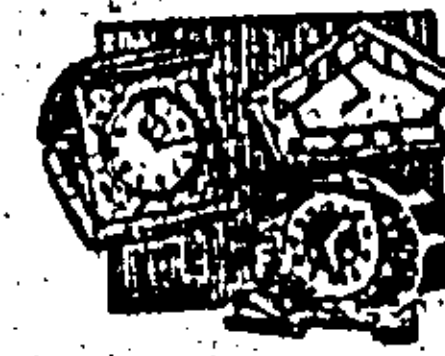
"ERCO" — for best value in shirts.

GIVE HER PERFUME

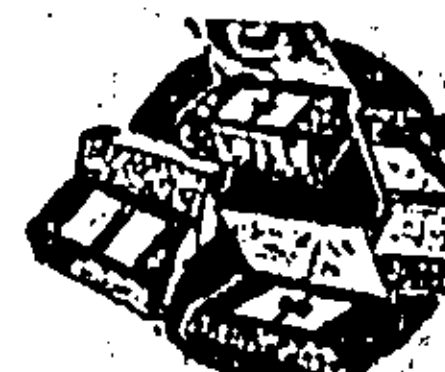


Nothing more acceptable by ladies than perfumes or toilet articles. We have a wide range to suit every taste and every purse.

CLOCKS or WATCHES THAT REMIND OF THE GIVER ALL THE TIME.



You won't go wrong if you make a choice from our range of OMEGA, MARVIN, CYMA, MOVADO, JUVENIA, ETERNA, ERNEST BOREL, HAMILTON, BIG BEN, TEMCO, etc.



STATIONERY

Boxes Stationery
Handbook Sets
Utility Desk Sets
Artistic Calendars
for all people of good taste.

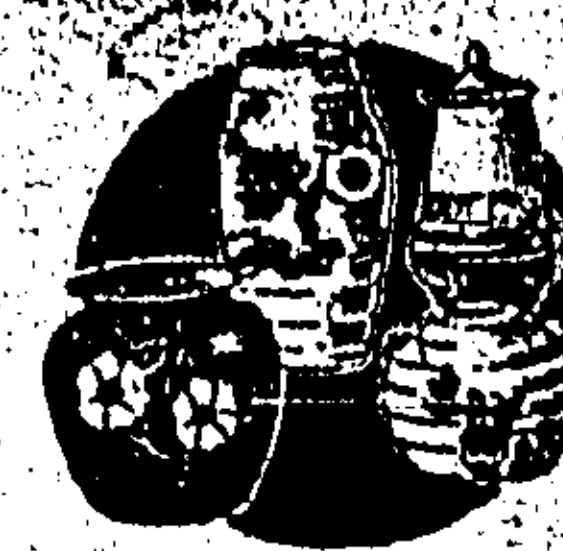
TRY OUR MONO-GRAMMING OR NAME IMPRINTING SERVICE.

SHOP EARLY, COMFORTABLY & HAPPILY AT

SINCERE'S

ART POTTERY

Beswick Vases
Doulton Figures
Sylvan Flower Baskets



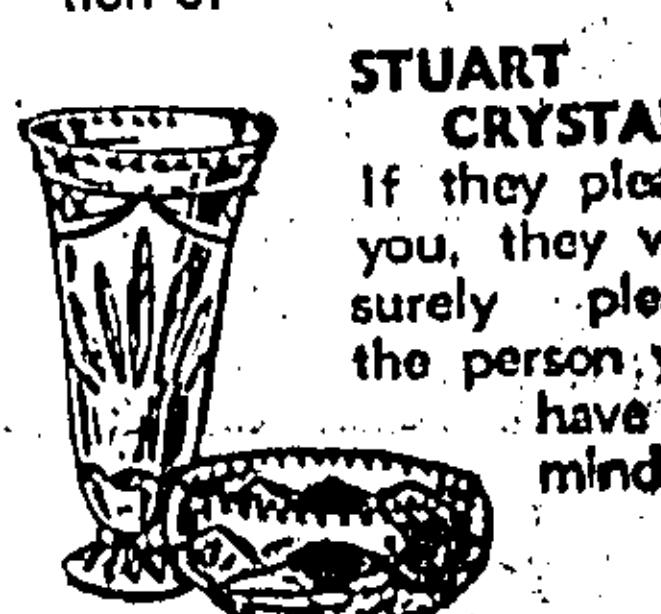
A gift of art in pottery will add to the home decoration and be treasured by the recipient for a long time.



made of alligator or suede leather, smartly styled for Mylady's daytime use, or the dainty brocaded or beaded bags for her evening ensemble.

CUT GLASS WARE

See our splendid collection of



STUART CRYSTALS

If they please you, they will surely please the person you have in mind.

Famous Since

1815

Paul Puhre

Formerly Watchmaker to the British Royal Family

Christmas

New Year Festivities



HONGKONG HOTEL

XMAS EVE
December 24th
GALA DINNER DANCE
till 2 a.m.

BOXING DAY
December 26th
DINNER DANCE
till 2 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE
December 31st
GALA DINNER DANCE
till 2 a.m.

Tickets and
Reservations at respective
Reception Offices.

REPULSE BAY

HOTEL
XMAS EVE
December 24th
SPECIAL DINNER DANCE
till 2 a.m.

XMAS DAY
December 25th
TEA DANCE
4.00 — 6.00 p.m.
BOXING DAY
December 26th
TEA DANCE
4.00 — 6.00 p.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE
December 31st
SPECIAL DINNER DANCE
till 2 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S DAY
January 1st, 1950
TEA DANCE
4.00 — 6.00 p.m.
MONDAY, January 2nd 1950
TEA DANCE
4.00 — 6.00 p.m.

"LIDO",

Repulse Bay.

XMAS EVE
December 24th
SPECIAL DINNER DANCE
till 2 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE
December 31st
SPECIAL DINNER DANCE
till 2 a.m.



PENINSULA HOTEL

XMAS EVE
December 24th
SPECIAL DINNER DANCE
till 2 a.m.

BOXING DAY
December 26th
SPECIAL DINNER DANCE
till 2 a.m.

NEW YEAR'S EVE
December 31st
SPECIAL DINNER DANCE
till 2 a.m.

THE
Hongkong & Shanghai
Hotels, Ltd.

SAINT FRANCIS STARTED CAROLS

By DR WILLIAM J. PHILLIPS
Organist to the Chapel Royal, Hampton Court Palace

IN the tiny Italian village of Greccio, near Assisi, St Francis and his brethren made the first Christmas "creche" and sang of the birth of Christ.

St Francis caused a manger, an ox, an ass, and all the trappings of a stable to be set up in the church, as a realistic reproduction of the surroundings of the first Christmas.

The population flocked to the church with their torches, and the friars sang new canticles, which were listened to with the eagerness of people used to the ministrations and troubadours of the time.

This simple performance in the Tuscan hills at the beginning of the thirteenth century was the real origin of carol singing as well as of the Christmas mystery plays; and since then the only break in the continuity of carol singing took place in the time of the Commonwealth.

In 1652 Parliament even went so far as to forbid the celebration of Christmas, and Evelyn the diarist was arrested for receiving Holy Communion on Christmas Day.

The words of the old carols were always sung to folk tunes. Formerly carolling was identified with dancing as well as singing. In old French, "Carole" signified a dance in a ring. Stonehenge, in Wiltshire, used to be known as the Giant's Carole.

THE CHERRY TREE

UP to the seventeenth century the apprentices were accustomed to dance in the nave of York Minster on Shrove Tuesday, and even today in the Cathedral of Seville the choir-boys perform a religious dance three times a year.

Carols were also sung as a kind of incidental music between the scenes of mystery plays, though later they were incorporated in the plays themselves.

Carols take many different forms. We have, for instance, the story-telling carols, such as The Cherry Tree, which tells how, on their way to Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph passed a cherry tree loaded with fruit. Mary asked Joseph to pick some of the cherries for her, but Joseph brusquely refused, whereupon the tree bent down and offered its fruit to Mary. The Carol of Dives and Lazarus has a certain rough humour:

Dives sent out his merry men

To whip poor Lazarus away,
They had no power to strike a stroke
But flung their whips away.
In the end, when Dives dies,
Two serpents come for his soul:
Rise up, rise up, brother Dives,
And come along with me,
For you've a place provided
In hell
To sit upon a serpent's knee!

CRADLE SONGS

NATURE carols there are in plenty, and quite possibly they derive from some ancient form of tree worship. In particular, the holly and the ivy have become sacred to Christmas, and in old times they have been looked upon as denoting the two sexes—the holly the young men, and the ivy the maidens.

Then we have the cradle songs—and what could be more charming than this old carol? Now, darling son,
That art to me so dear,
How should I keep thee every day
And make thee glad of cheer?
For all thy will I would fulfil,
Thou knowest it well in lay;
I will thee lull,
And make thee bliss,
And sing Bye Bye, lullay,
Oh, lovely Lady, Mother dear.

Take thou me up aloft
And set me down upon thy knee
And dangle me full oft,
Within thine arms
Thou'lt keep me warm
And guard me night and day;
And if I weep
And do not sleep,
Then sing Bye-bye, lullay.

THE WASSAIL

THE Wassail is one of the oldest known forms of the English carol. Most of the great Christmas festivals were grafted on to the feast days of the heathen gods, so that in many of our carols today we find the old Saxon toast of "Was huch" and "Drink hael." The following, from Poor Robin's Almanack for 1695, shows how royally they feasted: Now, thrice welcome Christmas
Which brings us good
cheer, pies and plum
porridge,
Good ale and strong beer:
With pig, goose, and capon
The best that can be.
So well doth the weather
And our stomachs agree,
Christmas would not be
Christmas without the carols.



THE CUSTOM OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE

By
E. BEREFOED CHANCELLOR

THE old Italian proverb which runs, "He has more business than English owns at Christmas," sufficiently indicates the world-renowned character of our Yuletide festivities. Indeed, from the Royal Household downwards all classes were wont once to celebrate this season with observances more complex and peculiar than is the custom now.

The Mummings and the Lord of Misrule, or Christmas Prince, as he was sometimes called, whose pleasant duty it was, according to old Slow, "to make the rustic pastime to delight the beholder as the things of the remote past, and our naturalia are conducted with a restraint which, if it does not exactly bear out the dictum of the French as to the way in which we take our pleasures, is at least in marked contrast with the manner in which we were formerly accustomed to enjoy them.

Nowadays four things may be said specially to characterise an English Christmas—the decoration of churches and houses, the waits, the Christmas pudding, and the Christmas tree. The supremacy of the Christmas pudding remains unchallenged, and it is eaten with a disregard of consequences by all good Englishmen, who, has been well said, never know when they are beaten.

The waits, like the poor, are always with us; but they differ among themselves every whit as much as Caesar tells us the various part of Gaul did. They can, on occasion, be merry and sometimes they actually are, when, say the village choir chooses to roam nightly; but too often their almost fiendish delight in murdering sleep—(like Macbeth)—with the

blare of brass, is a poor substitute for the voices and strings of a less sophisticated age. Many people suppose that, in common with such observances as these, the Christmas Tree is part and parcel of the old English Christmas; but this is hardly the case.

As a matter of fact, our Christmas Tree, hung with lights and tinsel and multi-coloured trifles, the delight and wonder of childhood, is to be traced to Germany, where it was a very ancient institution, with which the grave Luther is pleasantly identified. There is extant a print showing the Great Reformer with his family, singing carols around an illuminated and bedecked Christmas Tree; while his association with the festival is brought home to us still more clearly when we remember that in his more youthful days, to figure among the waits. "At the time of the festival of Christ's birth," he writes, "we went from house to house, and village to village, singing popular Christmas carols in four-part harmony."

THE introduction of the Christmas Tree into our festivities is actually of relatively recent date, and, as a popular symbol of the season, probably owed its origin to that member of the household of Queen Caroline (the wife of George IV) who is said to have constructed what he called a Christmas Tree for a party of children in London. It is described as being "a branch of an evergreen fastened on a board, hung with silk, oranges, almonds, etc., and having beneath it a model of a farmhouse with figures of men and animals."

Modern, therefore, as the Christmas Tree is in England, on the Continent it was of very ancient date, and no doubt had its prototype in Egypt, that land of mystery, whence it is necessary to transport the year

Diana Has Toboggan Trouble



DIANA DORS, the young star of the J. Arthur Rank Organisation, had a little toboggan trouble when she set out to deliver her Christmas presents. But a little upset will not spoil Diana's Yuletide spirit.

YOU CAN DODGE THE CHRISTMAS HANGOVER . . . by

ANTHONY WEYMOUTH

DON'T be persuaded into foolish feeding at Christmas merely because other people are doing themselves too well.

Please don't think of me as a spoilsport. As a doctor, I know how stimulating a little relaxation of your usual habits can be. A few days' break and a thorough change from your ordinary occupations do more to tone up your mind and body than a pint or two of so-called "tonics".

At the same time it is a poor policy to return to your work after Christmas with a head which feels like exploding any minute—so don't be misled by superstition into thinking that you'll have a year of luck if you eat a mince pie every day

between Christmas and Twelfth Night. You are much more likely to get a bilious attack.

I suggest that you divide the festivities which accompany Christmas into two groups—those which are harmless and those which need watching.

AMONG the first group are customs like hanging up mistletoe and burning the Yule log. As you probably know, mistletoe, being an evergreen, is symbolic of life—it is green when the leaves of ordinary trees have died for the winter. Custom says that you can have as many kisses as there are berries on the branches.

The Yule log, alas, is only for those fortunate people living in the country. Its name is derived from *log*, a wheel, and symbolises the passing of the seasons.

But, if you are lucky enough to be able to add the Yule log to your celebrations, don't forget that it must be brought home on Christmas Eve.

Then there is the stocking. This must be hung at the right spot—which is near enough to the fire for presents to drop down the chimney by Santa Claus to be caught in it.

This custom, I believe, originated from the fourth century saint, Nicholas of Myra, who was so shy that he hated going to his acts of charity in daylight or where he could be seen, so he once climbed a roof and dropped a purse of gold down the chimney! (Santa Claus is a corruption of Saint Nicholas).

YOU'LL probably agree that all these doings are harmless enough. Now we come to the other group, those which need watching.

And what needs watching at this season is food. You may not have seen either a turkey or a plum pudding for twelve months and so your mouth waters and you feel ready for the assault. As the Dutch say, "You lay your ears back in readiness."

First comes the turkey, accompanied, like a general with his staff, by sausages, stuffing, sauce, gravy and two kinds of vegetables.

And, at this point, let me explain that there is no need for you to choose turkey, in preference to other birds, merely because you think that you are following long-established custom. For the turkey is a newcomer and was, in fact, introduced only in the sixteenth century.

Plum pudding, too, is a newcomer. It was unknown until about 1730. Very nourishing this dish is. (And that's the trouble—there is too much nourishment about at Christmas time.)

MINCE pies follow as a ritual: dessert, almonds and raisins, crystallised fruits, oranges, chocolates.

I've just worked out how much in excess of our requirements you and I eat at the Christmas dinner. This is the result: "One meal such as we eat on this day contains enough calories for two whole days. And when it's followed by a hefty tea, and a solid supper, no wonder the disgusted stomach rebels."

Well, that's that. What is to be done about it? I'll tell you my scheme for Christmas Day.

First, a light breakfast—no bacon, eggs, or sausages. Some fruit, toast, and coffee. You know the sort of thing. Then we either have our Christmas dinner in the middle of the day or in the evening. BUT NOT BOTH.

If the former, then supper is very light. If the latter, we have soup and I insist on a walk between the midday and the evening meal. And cut out that afternoon tea; for I agree with the Frenchman who described this meal as a "reflexion on your lunch, and an insult to your dinner."

DR JOHNSON once said: "Sir, I can abstain, but I cannot be moderate." And it is because I believe that most of us, if we are honest enough to admit it, are built in the same way that I advise only one good meal on Christmas Day. It is easier to abstain when the food isn't there than to see it and be moderate.

And I cannot doubt that your stomach, and mine, are the capable, however willing, of dealing satisfactorily with two really heavy meals on the same day.

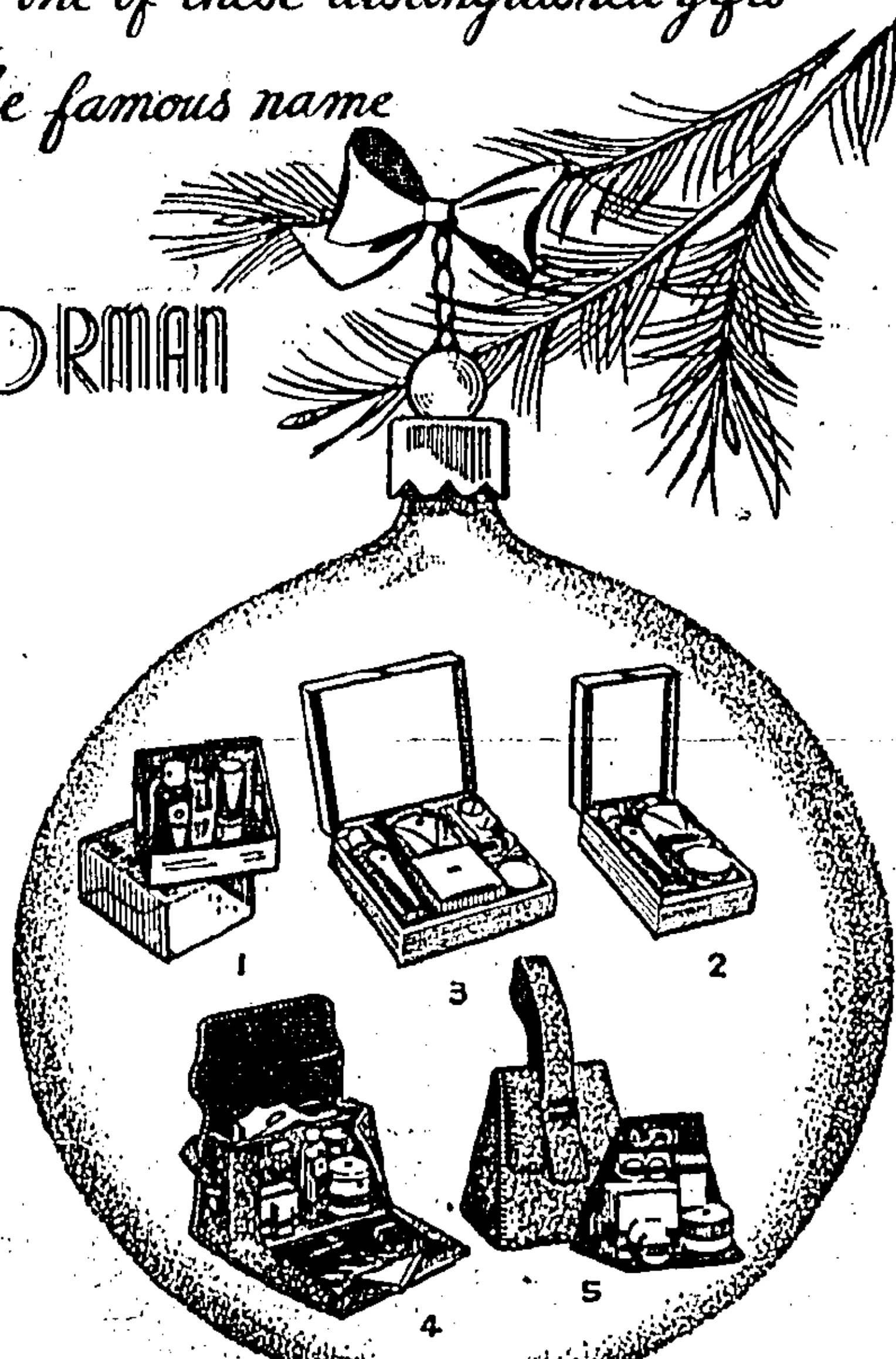
All the same, I think that you may exceed your usual ration on this great day, at one meal, and, in all probability, you'll get away with it. But don't risk two.

Not only do I wish you a happy Christmas, but (if you take my advice) I think you'll have a happy (and comfortable) New Year.

Give her one of these distinguished gifts bearing the famous name

of
MERLE NORMAN

1. Match Stick—this most attractive package holding matching Lipstick and Nail Polish. \$10.00
2. 3-Pie Set—beautiful box filled with Cold Cream, Powder Base and Lotus Lotion. \$21.00
3. 4-Pie Set—containing Cold Cream, Rouge, Powder Base, Lipstick, Lotus Lotion, Mascara, Face Powder and Eye Shadow. \$24.00
4. The Travel Kit—genuine leather in attractive colors. Small and compact for travelling. Filled with Powder Base, Cold Cream, Rouge, Lipstick, Lotus Lotion, Mascara, Face Powder and Eye Shadow. \$18.00
5. The Wristbag—Plastic bag containing Face Powder, Powder Base, Cold Cream, Mascara, Rouge, Lipstick and Eye Shadow. \$20.00



obtainable at
THE WING ON CO, LTD.

GIFTS FROM WINDSORS'

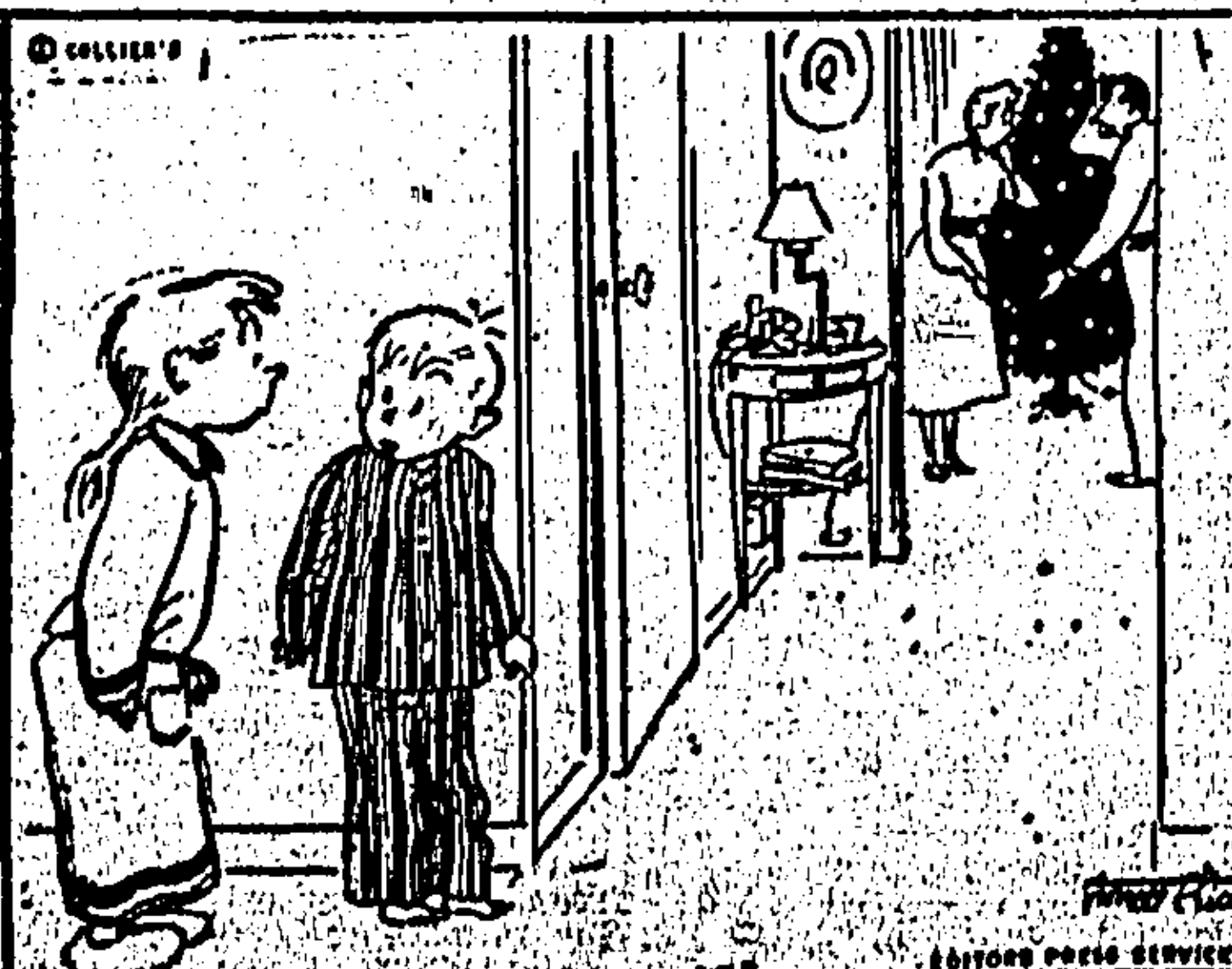
Chosen with Confidence!
Accepted with Pleasure!

For the Lady of Taste, a Diamond Solitaire, or an Eternity Ring will be most acceptable. For the Elegant Man, a Gold and Platinum Signet Ring, or Studs and Links set in Onyx.

And there's a great choice in other Jewellery and Silverware too. Useful Gifts in Bohemian and English Crystal, Bone China, and EPNS ware await your selection always.

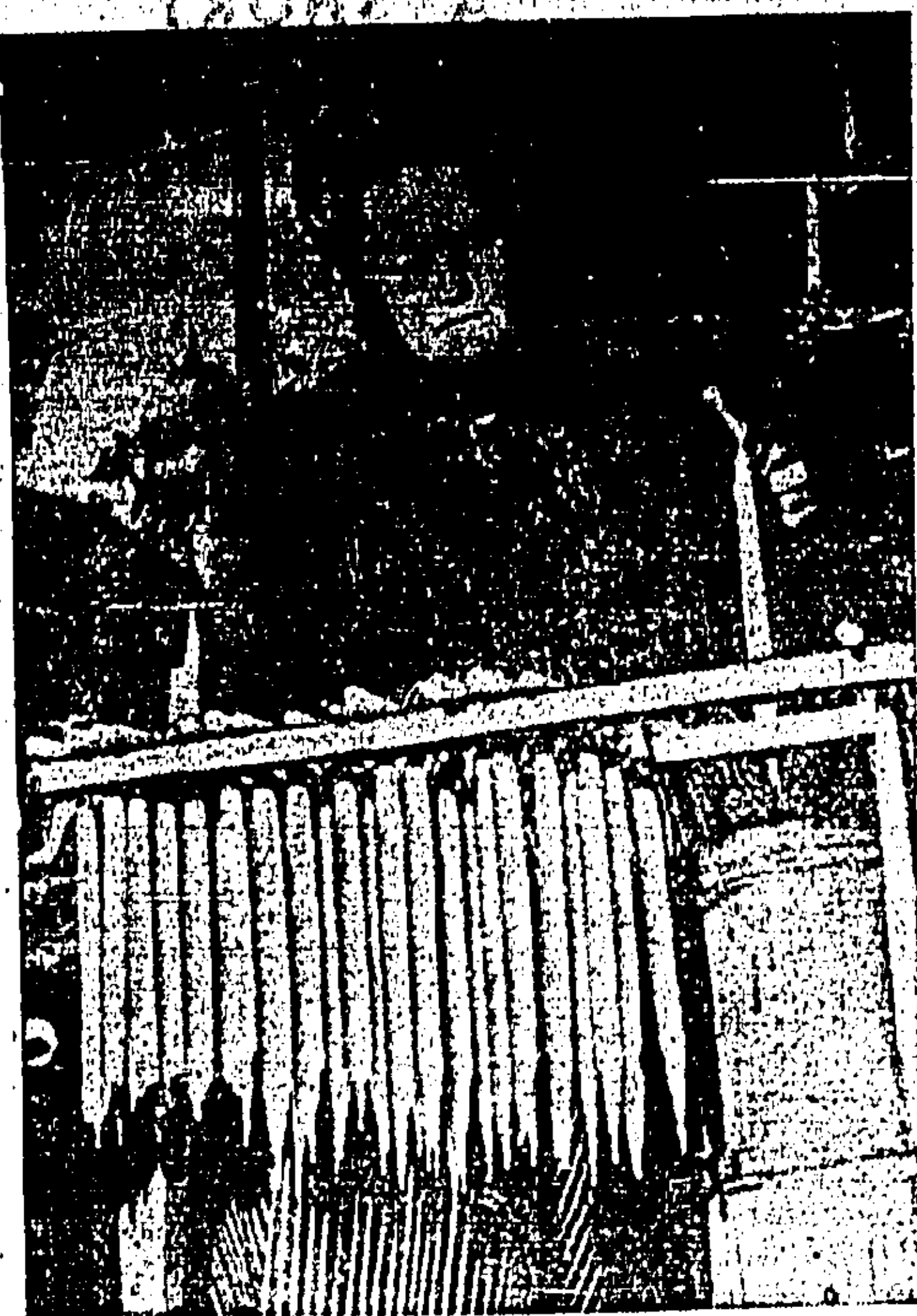
J. A. WINDSOR & CO.

PIONEER JEWELLERS OF KOWLOON
9, HANKOW ROAD.



"They've forgotten where they hid the presents. Do you think we ought to tell them?"

Christmas Custom



Mrs. Elin Karlsson of Sorunda County, Stockholm, dressed in traditional shawl and cap, makes her own candles at home for the celebration of Christmas. Here she is hanging up a few sticks of the tallow to be dried as part of the final process of an age-old formula.

Mixed Battery Celebrating Christmas

By ERNEST TURNER

WHEN the ATS began to go about with mistletoe in their hair and the light of battle in their eyes you know that Christmas was coming to the 99th Heavy (Mixed) Anti-Aircraft Battery, Royal Artillery.

There was already a "lift" in the air because the guns had fired a couple of days before, and even though no noticeable distress had been caused to the Luftwaffe the fact of firing raised everybody's spirits. The Quartermaster was especially pleased, as he was now able to attribute the recent breakage of three inventory pans to gun blast and thus avoid levying a charge for barrack-room damages. People with houses adjoining the gunsite were less pleased, but they plugged up their broken windows with card-

board and tried to pretend that it was all in a good cause. Quite a number of characters changed for the better as Christmas approached. For once the BSM visited the site on a purely goodwill mission instead of for the purpose of lighting a fire in a remote corner and timing the arrival of the fire pluck.

Private Jean Smith and Corporal Sally Tubb, who in the ordinary way cultivated exclusively the society of American fliers, were good enough to remain in the camp and their evening off and join in a sing-song in the Naah.

Lieutenant Rogers, who was wont to make information descends on the Information Room in the evenings, under the impression that it was being used for other purposes than acquiring information, decided to live and let live (for a couple of days anyway).

THE Junior Commander ATS had got over her huff. She had selected her six best-looking ATS for a special parade, only to see them rejected by the Colonel, who had other standards of pulchritude. He had chosen just the ones you would expect a man to choose. Now, however, the Junior Commander had decided she must live it down, and was ordering the Christmas dinner with imagination and efficiency.

Yes, there was an improvement all round. It even seemed that the Major was going to unbend to the extent of allowing the male Sergeants to take tea to the ATS on Christmas morning. But the Major knew that a man's footsteps over the threshold of an ATS hut was liable to lead to a question in the House of Commons, and he was taking no chances. He said that in any case revelling in an ATS barrack-room was a scene from which Hogarth might have shrunk. Nobody knew how he came to possess this knowledge.

CHRISTMAS morning saw officers and sergeants of both sexes busily carrying buckets of tea into the appropriate barrack-rooms, waking up sleepers who would just as soon have stayed asleep. Everyone tried to be hearty, though there were quite a few who only carried tradition. Then the officers and sergeants staggered back to bed.

The only parade that morning was for singing carols. Even Gunner Brown, a notorious dissenter, attended. The local minister, called in for the occasion, was in a jovial mood. "Think of a number," he would say to the congregation, in the manner of a conjuror addressing his audience. Someone would call "Five," so they

would sing Carol Number Five. And so on. It was all very unorthodox. For once the final "Amen" was not immediately followed by the cry "Three ranks in the roadway!" It was all very refreshing.

Dinner was the big event. The dining hall was so garlanded and beflagged that you could not read the exhortations to save bread and to come with clean hands. There was a special holly wreath on the piece of Heinkel which the battery had winged a year before. At one end of the hall were three barrels of beer, presented by the officers, who also had the privilege of serving it. No body refused beer, not even the youngest and dewiest flak maiden.

THERE was mistletoe hung at strategic points around the hall, and this delayed the serving of the meal somewhat. Captain Richards was the principal victim. They always pounced on him when he had both hands full. His handkerchief at the end showed more shades of lipstick than you could find on a colour chart by Elizabeth Arden. To win a wager, Gunner Tomkins kissed the Junior Commander, which was no hardship. When the Major kissed the Junior Commander there was loud applause, against the background of which a female voice was heard expressing the belief that it probably wasn't the first time. Lieutenant Smithson, a newcomer to "mixed," said that this stimulating blend of Bacchus and Venus was probably as near as he would ever get to the atmosphere of a Roman orgy.

Nuts were served to round off the meal. This was a mistake, as nuts are too useful as ammunition. The beer barrels were by now empty. Nobody felt much like attending the football match, least of all the players, so it was just as well that visiting team failed to turn up. Everybody had a lazy afternoon under the blankets—except the officers and sergeants who had to wash up, serve the mess staffs, wash up again, eat their own dinner and then wash up for the third time.

THERE was a dance in the evening, preceded by amateur theatricals, full of libellous innuendo. Lieutenant Rogers was depicted lecturing on the British Way and Purpose to a choir of angels. There was a hysterical scene in a haunted barrack-room, the girl occupants of which withstood every kind of hoodluming apparition but panicked at the end when one of them saw a mouse. And, of course, Sergeant Richmond gave his celebrated mime

of an ATS getting undressed and into bed. L/Cpl Jane White, straight from "Jankers", sang "I'll walk beside you", and received much sympathetic applause. Then Sergeant Alice Grant gave the hula-hula dance which, her jealous colleagues averred, was the cause of her rapid promotion at training centre.

Probably the reason why the ATS enjoyed the dance so much was that the ATS officers forebore to enquire why half of them were wearing slacks instead of Service dress, and why their hair in many cases was no longer two inches above the collar. Private Polly Jackson expected any moment to be asked, "Jackson, have you been using scent?" But her crime, if noticed (and it was abundantly noticeable) went unpunished.

The BSM, who was compering, laid on a kiss waltz, saying, "The music will stop, the lights will go out for five seconds, and the gentlemen will do what is expected of them." It happened that Lieutenant Rogers was dancing with Gunner Walters' fiancée, but there wasn't much that Gunner Walters could do about it. (He was a jealous fellow, and didn't like other NCOs' urging his fiancée, who was a cook-house orderly, to get a move on). It also happened that Private Joan Jenkins was dancing with Captain Richards, who was the only person in the camp who didn't know that Private Joan had a "crush" on him.

AFTER that romantic interlude there were action songs, including the one which finished:

"The moon was shining brightly,
'Twas a night that would banish all sin,
For the bells were ringing
The Old Year Out,
And the New Year in."

The idea, of course, was to make exaggerated gestures appropriate to each line. It was felt that the Major's interpretation of "sin" was as daring as anybody's. To see the battery making a fool of itself collectively, was a refreshing sight.

Soon after this the shutter descended on the beer bar and the dance began to die. Three Free French sailors had been invited to the dance. They had not lacked partners, though, and two of the girls had found the Provencal technique a bit swift. Lieutenant Rogers, who always took the job of Orderly Officer seriously, thought he would see them safely off the site. It took him twenty minutes, and in the end he had to call out reinforcements.

In the sergeants' mess Christmas night was celebrated longer than anywhere else. Jenkins, the batman, swears next day that when organising an early cup of tea from the cookhouse he saw the male sergeants retrieving their bedding from the static water tank. Apparently they had had a very good party indeed.

Talking about Music . . . Don't look to me for unbiased opinion

A MUSIC critic should in the first place give an account of himself, for he practises an odd and suspected trade. His job is more difficult than that of the dramatic or book critic; he is on a much trickier wicket.

He has to deal with a "foreign" language, with an intangible art addressed to him and to the rest of us out of another dimension, so to say. Often he is bound to feel like a bogus spiritualist medium, faking messages from the next world.

by NEVILLE CARDUS

He will take the whole music world as his province; he will write about music and musicians, concerts, composers, orchestras and performers.

His articles will appear regularly and —

Exclusively



Into the sun, dazzled with the urge and cleverness given him by the fates. Master of the orchestra at 24, an orchestra of the age of gold and grass, the orchestra of Midas. . . .

The scientific school in general, and Mr Newman in particular are not, they say, interested in anybody's interpretation of music, no matter how well written. They are concerned only with the composition "as in itself it really is," and with the composer's mind and his processes of thought.

COMPOSERS

But nobody, not even Mr Newman, can resist altogether the bias or pull of his temperament and his particular order of education. Only the Almighty is empowered to see things "under the conditions of eternity."

The joke is that whenever the great composers themselves have spoken about their own music they have most times preferred to express themselves in this very same despised language of verbal or literary analogy. Somebody once asked Beethoven the "meaning" of one of his piano sonatas. "Read The Tempest," he said.

As a last resort the music critic might fill out his column by referring to the performance. But who, except the singer herself, her relations and friends and those who don't like her, are really interested to read in the paper next day that at the Wigmore Hall last night Miss Glottis-Quick sang Dido

In this column I shall try to see to it that enjoyment of writing about music — like charity — begins at home. But I must utter a word of warning at the outset.

If anybody looks to me for unprejudiced opinions he is likely to suffer some disappointment. After all, my prejudices may occasionally be only your preferences; and, anyway, it is hard and dull to tolerate everything and everybody.

As Oscar Wilde said, only the auctioneer should attempt to appreciate all schools of art.

London Express Service.



Why, Edith, just what I'll need! . . . a new cheque book!

ABSTRACT

The critic of books can point out that a novelist's characters are, or are not, "like life." The dramatic critic can describe the enchanting way Edith Evans as Daphne Laureola gets drunk. Also he can draw attention to the fact that another character in the restaurant scene of the same play leaves the stage, not obviously to assist the development of the plot, but nevertheless to assist the illusion that we are looking at human nature very much, if deliberately, in action.

The painter, too, is obliged to keep in touch with the familiar visible universe. Even the surrealist may do his damndest and give us a triangle struck by lightning against a background of welsh rarebit and call it "Metempsychosis B."

But, all the same, the triangle (and the welsh rarebit) will be recognisable at sight, or maybe second sight. His work can be described — and detected.

But music, sounding air, "beauty in the abstract, beauty in solution," what can any man's pen do with it?

There are only two ways in which the critic may expect to cope. He will impress many folk, of course, if he goes in for "analysis"; we all know the kind—"The principal subject, hitherto only heard merely, in the piccolo (sforzando) is transferred hopefully to the violin, until we come to a close on the dominant of D minor." This sort of writing is Chinese to the average reader; and the musician knows all about it, and more than all, already.

GIBBERISH

No music critic of humour has time for such gibberish. He is thrown back on literary or verbal analogy, a method out of fashion nowadays, and if practised in public likely to arouse the ire or irony of Mr Newman.

This sort of thing: "At the age of 24 Strauss plunged into the vortex of 19th century music; he was his own 'Don Juan,' sending his young eagles

C.V.R. Thompson Christmas Thoughts In New York

NEW YORK. It is already like Christmas in New York. They are putting up trees to match the skyscrapers, and Fifth Avenue blazes by day and night with coloured lights.

The shops, bulging with everything to tempt a child or an adult, are jammed. Mr Lee Wood, a New York editor, saw all this and thought of Britain. The result was seen in his newspaper. It said: "Our friends in Britain face another cheerless Christmas season their fifth since the war. They are short of almost everything which most of us consider necessary to a happy celebration."

Why not share your Christmas this year with a friend in Britain? Gifts of food can be shipped duty free. If you do not know any British people personally there are agencies — that will gladly send food packages for you, and make sure they reach persons who need them and will enjoy them.

And the newspaper? It is the New York World Telegram, which earlier this year published the critical articles by E. T. Leach on Socialist Britain.

EVEN THE DOLLAR may get shaky, says the National Association of Manufacturers, unless Washington

stops spending money that it has not got. William Grede, the association's financial expert, told Congress that the national debt may soon get so large that the dollar will have to be devalued. His remedy: The Government must be taught to pay bills, and should cut next year's spending by \$3,000 million or more.

OPINION: The local newspaper in Moscow, a small Idaho town, started a campaign to adopt a more American name. Said the paper: "Moscow suggests many painful things. Somehow, we cannot help feeling uneasy about having Moscow in Idaho. Sort of like having a sheriff named Hitler."

SUNBATHING on the Florida beaches, President Truman escaped the blast from an "explosion" he had timed to go off while he was away from Washington. The explosion was caused by a radio message, the Government announced to stop unequal treatment of Negroes.

From now, no housing projects which restrict their tenants to any particular race, colour or creed, will be able to use Government money. Said Washington: "The President is most happy over the results of his efforts."

of the union workers at one of New York's largest department stores, and he turned over union funds to advertise in the newspapers for more customers for the store.

"Wait and see," said Miller, arguing that it was in the union's interest for the employer to make more money. The other union men had to take it all back. The store announced that business had improved so much because of the union's advertising that everyone would get an extra £1 a week.

ART: Hollywood's plan to attract women audiences by what they call "beach" — advertising pictures which show mainly heroes in bare-chested poses — has given the calendar people an idea. Some of their 1950 productions will feature massive, muscled pin-up boys.

HOME: In my grocer's the other day I found dough for sale. It comes ready mixed and neatly baked by a process discovered accidentally by an ex-G.I. It keeps fresh for a fortnight, and half an hour "in a hot oven" turns it into "home-baked" crisp new bread or rolls.

BUSINESS: Off to Washington is a committee of America's leading "all goods" manufacturers. They are to demand a stiff tariff to stop dumping from occupied Japan.

DO BOOK EARLY For Festive Fare and All That —

Parisian Grill
RESERVATIONS:—TEL. 27880

Only from
Scotland can
true Scotch
Whisky come



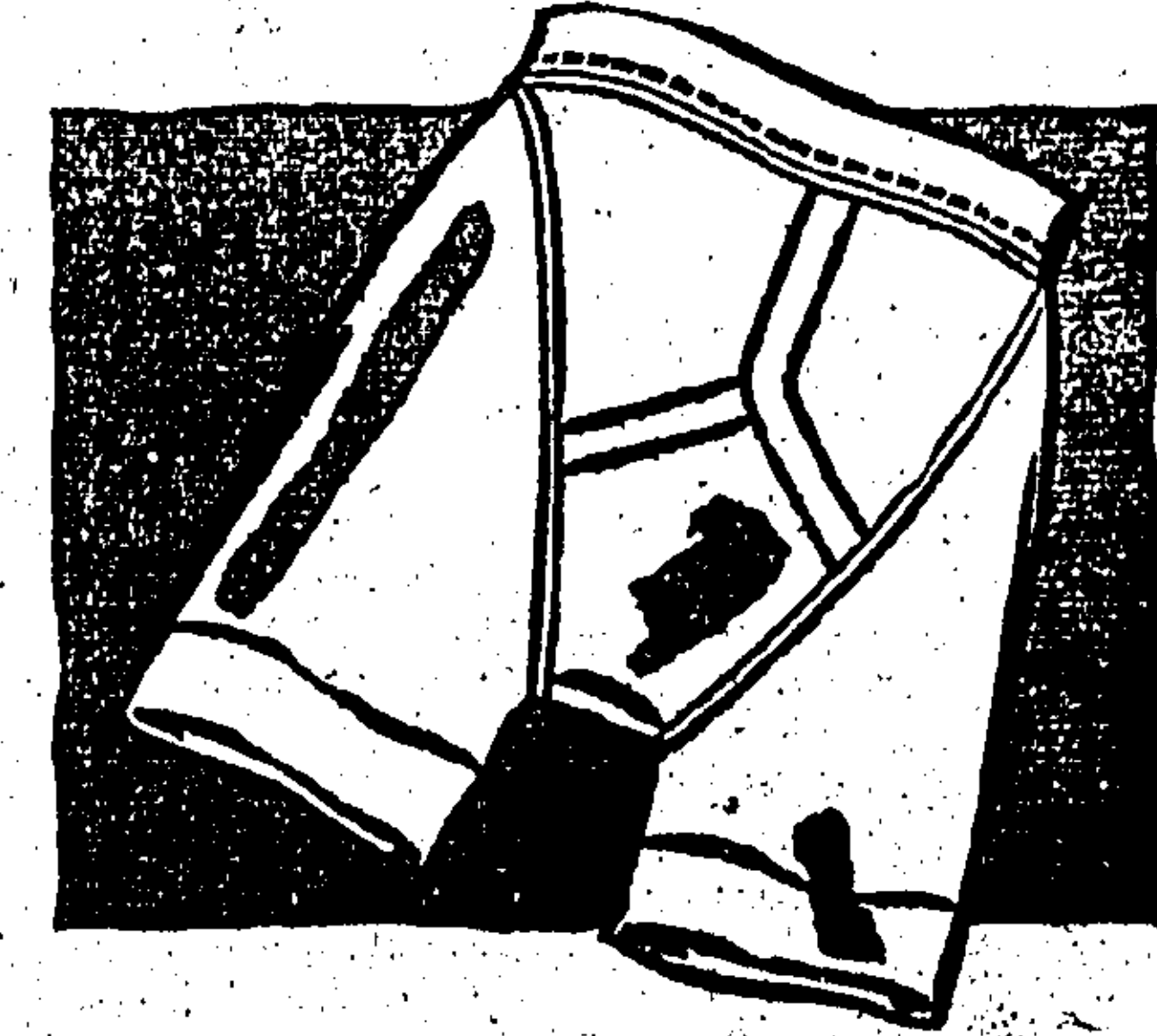
JOHNNIE WALKER

BORN 1820 — STILL GOING STRONG

Johnnie Walker is real Scotch Whisky at its very best

JOHN WALKER & SONS LTD., SCOTCH WHISKY DISTILLERS, GLASGOW

Give him comfort
for Christmas



give him Jockey Midway

the underwear famous for smooth, snug fit

We have it — he wants it! The famous Jockey Midway that fits snug as his skin, moves with his skin, gives him real masculine support, snug all-day comfort. With famous patented Y-Front construction. Perfect for everyday wear. Get "him" several pairs. Originated and manufactured only by Coopers.

HONGKONG'S BETTER STORES HAVE THEM

TAI HANG JEWELLERY Wholesalers of CUT-DIAMONDS

Sole Agents for
Liberty Diamond Cutting Works (Pty) Ltd.
Johannesburg, South Africa.

Bank of East Asia Bldg.
7th Floor, Room 707,
Hong Kong. Telephone 21328

Her last knowledge was the hard outline of a man pressing into her neck. Then she lay still, her face in snow, and the flakes came savagely covered her.



HE the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, speaking at the opening of the annual exhibition of the Hongkong Art Club, held at St John's Cathedral Hall this week. Below: Mr A. E. Nobbins, chairman of the Club, addressing members at the annual dinner last week. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



THE wedding of Mr Chen Yuk-lun and Miss Wong Yee-ling took place at the Hongkong Hotel this week. This group picture was taken on the occasion. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



SCENE from the Hongkong Stage Club's production of Mary Hayley Bell's two-act play, "Duet For Two Hands," presented at the China Fleet Club Theatre last week. (Ming Yuen)



PICTURE taken at St Andrew's Church after the christening of Barbara Joanne, infant daughter of Insp. and Mrs E. Franklin. (Mainland Studio)



MRS F. Goodwin presenting tennis prizes at the Kowloon Cricket Club last Sunday. The occasion was followed by a very successful tea dance. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



THE graduating class of Bollis Girls' School, photographed with the Principal, Miss E. G. Stephenson. Right: prizes being presented by Mrs R. R. Todd. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



LEFT: Group picture taken after the christening of Rejnier Frans, son of Mr and Mrs F. P. M. Driessens, at St Joseph's Church.



UPPER picture shows Bishop Hall laying the foundation stone of the new St Stephen's College Chapel at Stanley last Saturday. Canon E. W. L. Martin (lower photo) laid the foundation stone of the College's swimming pavilion. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



THE new Cheero Club, situated on Murray Parade Ground, was opened by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, on Wednesday. In upper picture, Mr D. Benson, chairman of the Committee, is seen speaking on the occasion. Lower picture: scene at the refreshment counter. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)

It's Really **JINGLE BELLS**
WHEN YOU GET A
RADIOGRAM
for Christmas!

Come and see our selection at
GILMAN'S
RADIO DEPARTMENT
GLOUCESTER ARCADE

for **Xmas**
and the coming year...

Exclusive
Dress Fabrics
by **BOUREC**

evening dress by
Made by Cyprien Ltd

RENNER & SONS
SPORTS

SHOES - HATS
by **Jeinacraft**

Made by
Hague Thorough

Girdles & Bras by
BESTFORD

All the best

Sunrie shoes and bags
by **Joynes**

Life and Love
by **Recher Squares**

costume jewellery
by **Biltmore**

Paquerette Ltd.
Gloucester Bldg.

Provide him with an ample wig and beard of white cotton and top him off with a red cape.

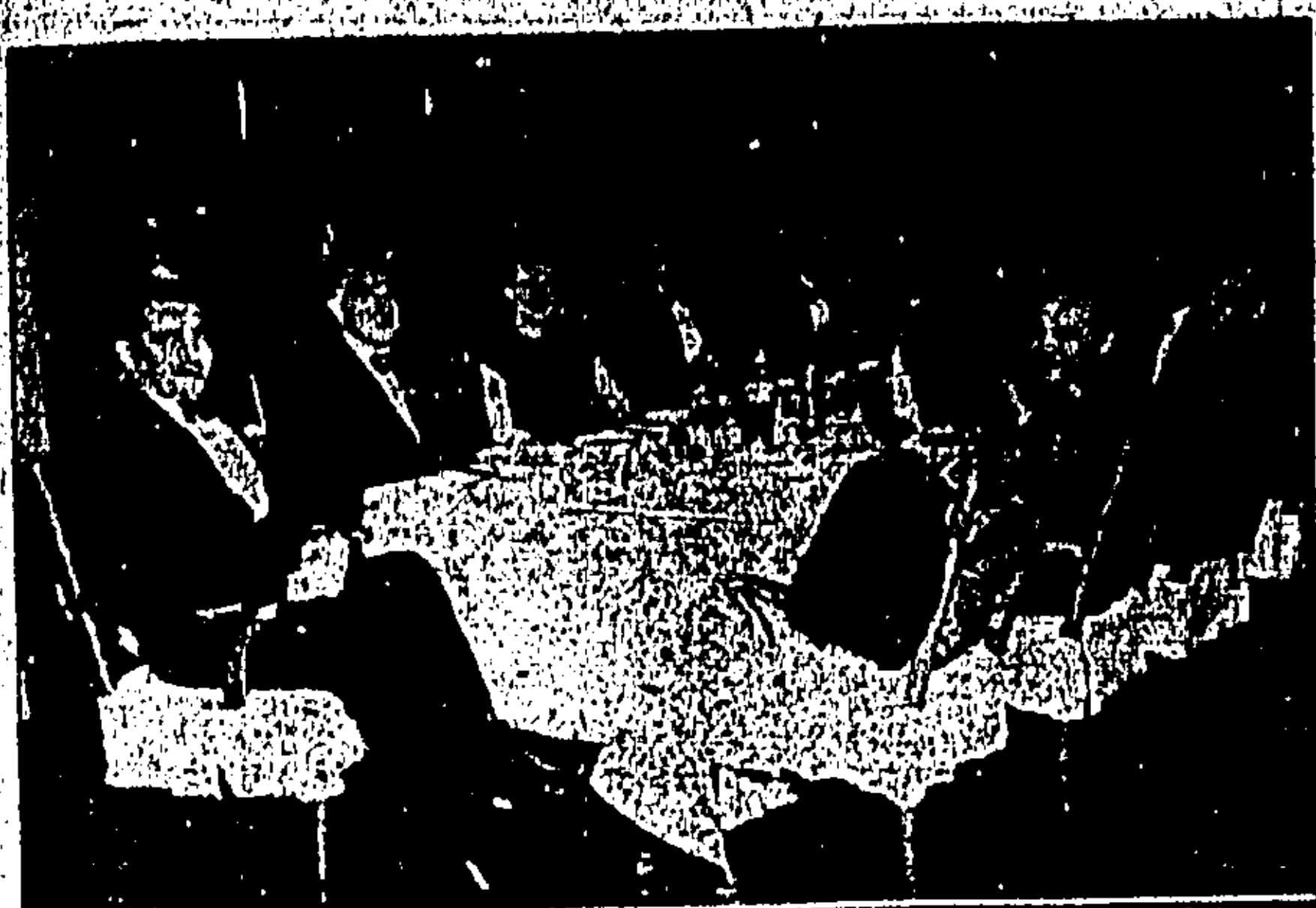
Of course, the big attraction is the Christmas tree. It should be as exciting and colourful as possible for the youngsters. Brightly coloured toys and plenty of edible decorations will satisfy the children's proverbial taste buds.

Use three or four boxes with plenty of tinsel and bright lights. Check these for safety, please!

Work out some contests for different groups, with a treasure hunt as the grand finale. It is difficult to hide small gifts, use pretty cards decorated with different seals. When one of these cards is found, the coverer comes to the 'bag of secrets' and takes a gift wrapped and identified with seals to match those of the treasure card. Keep the presents small and simple.

Gifts *THIS CHRISTMAS*

Alice Denhoff



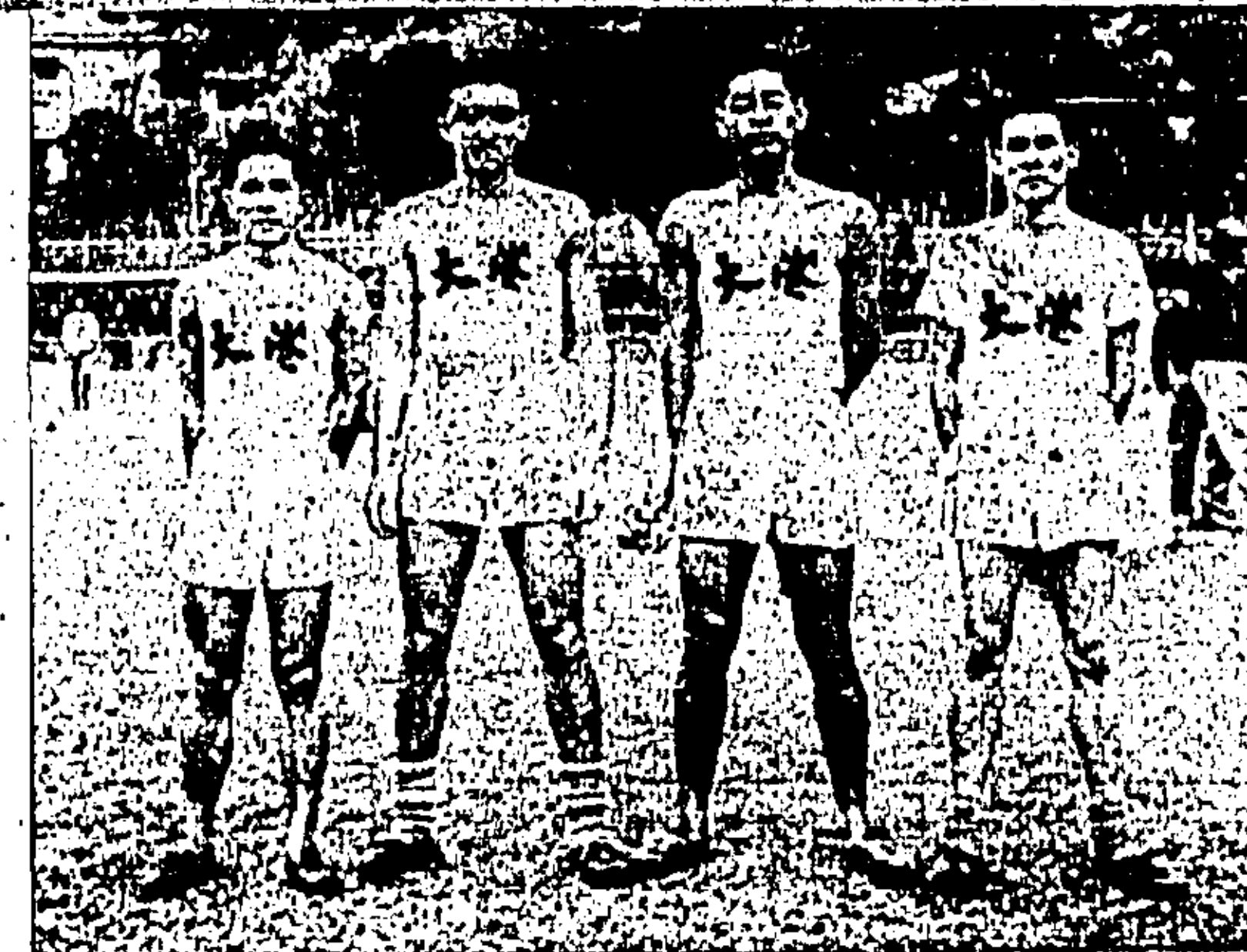
TWO of the many parties that attended the Hongkong Volunteer Defence Corps Association dance, held at the Peninsula Hotel last week. (Jimmy Foo)



THE Ex-Gunners' Roll of Hongkong gave a highly successful reunion cocktail party at the Volunteer Centre recently. Two pictures taken on the occasion. (Jimmy Foo)



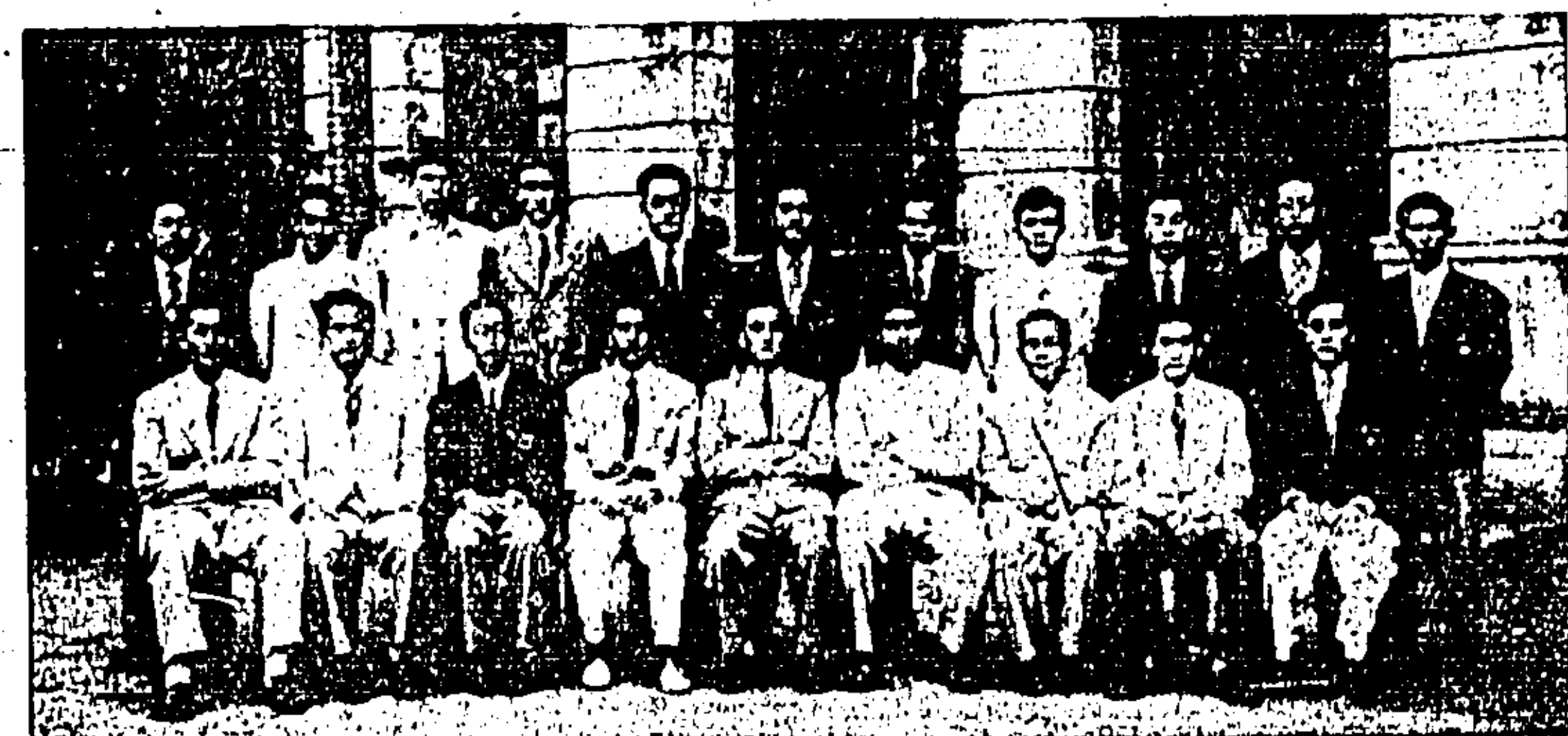
A high standard was set at the Hongkong inter-schools sports last week. Above left: Miss Mui Shun-ngan, of St Mary's School, won the 80 metres low hurdles, 100 metres flat race and the long jump. Above right: John Braga, who set a new record for the 200 metres for boys, with the next three to finish. Right: The Hongkong University team, winners of the 400 metres open relay. (Golden Studio)



PICTURE taken on the occasion of the christening last week of Barbara Eleanor, infant daughter of Mr and Mrs A. J. G. Taylor. (Golden Studio)



PICTURE shows the crowd attending the Al Fresco Fete, organised by the Society of St Vincent de Paul and held in Kowloon last week. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



THE newly-elected Committee of the Hongkong University Athletic Association for the present scholastic year. (Ming Yuen)

ON the right and below are two pictures taken at the dance given at Government House last Saturday evening for Service men and women. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



MISS M. C. Knight presenting prizes at the annual speech day of St Stephen's Girls' College last week. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)

FLY the quickest route
to **AUSTRALIA**
and **Pacific Islands**



Qantas flies you from Hong Kong to Sydney by modern Skymaster aircraft in two days. You relax in luxurious comfort—enjoy perfect food served by attentive stewards. From Sydney, air connections are easily made throughout Australia or the Pacific Islands. Ask Jardines or your Travel Agent.

FLY Q.E.A.

NEXT FLIGHT DEC. 23

Qantas Empire Airways

In association with British Overseas Airways Corporation
Agents: JARDINES, MATHESON & CO., LTD.



SILKS and EMBROIDERIES

LARGE QUANTITIES OF FASHIONABLE

**CHINESE SILKS and
EMBROIDERED LINENS**

FOR YOUR CHOICE AND INSPECTION

*Prices Guaranteed Reasonable
Goods Returnable If Not
Satisfied*

**SPECIAL PRICE FOR
RAW SILK**

FRAZER YOUNG

24, WYNDHAM STREET.

TELEPHONE 28382

Kowloon.

London Express Service

How Baby-Wise are YOU?

1. When shouldn't baby's wet diapers be changed?

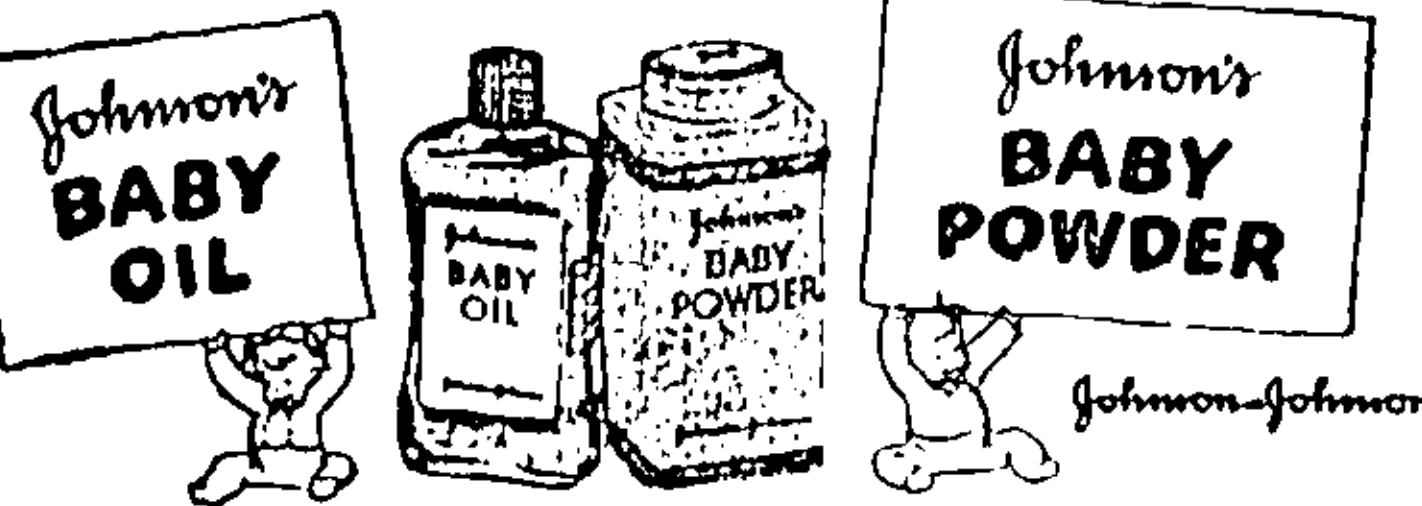
If baby is sleeping contentedly, don't disturb him to change wet diapers, authorities say. Plenty of time, when he wakes up! But guard against "urine irritations" by smoothing on pure, gentle Johnson's Baby Oil, at every diaper change. Use for all over smoothness after baby's bath!

2. Is it true that newborn babies can smile?

Many astonished mothers can't believe anything so tiny could be so accomplished—but a baby's "smiles" are, actually, pleasure reflexes! And how he beams when mother sprinkles silky-soft Johnson's Baby Powder on his tender skin. Feels so good—helps chase little chafes and prickles!

3. Should fathers be banished from the nursery?

Definitely no, say all the experts. Fathers gain new understanding and kinship with their babies by occasionally taking over. It's a pleasure to care for a Johnson's baby—whose skin is smooth and sweet from daily use with Johnson's Baby Oil and Powder!



Imperial Trading Co., Ltd.
HONG KONG.

"BANDIT," "VISA," "DINGO," "FRACAS"

Four penetrating and lasting perfumes from ROBERT PIGUET, PARIS.

Sole Representatives
K. CAUDRON & CO.
French Bank Bldg., 3rd Floor.
Tel: 27539.

This Christmas: an Oyster Perpetual

THIS CHRISTMAS... what better present than an Oyster Perpetual, a watch created in the finest tradition of Geneva craftsmanship by the great Swiss firm of Rolex? First permanently waterproof and self-winding watch in the world, the Oyster Perpetual has been tested for seventeen years in every climate and on every continent. The watch is wound automatically by the slightest motion of the wrist. Worn for only six hours, it will run for thirty; worn always, it will run forever. Protected by the unique, permanent waterproof Oyster case, the Oyster Perpetual is available either in stainless steel or in solid gold—truly the perfect Christmas gift.

ROLEX
OFFICIALLY CERTIFIED
WRIST-CHRONOMETERS

**PERPETUAL ACCURACY
WITHOUT WINDING**

JIMMINY JINGLE, UNCLE HOLLY, HELP FATHER CHRISTMAS IN THE RUSL. Children find some new faces at the stores

SO many children are accompanying parents on shopping expeditions that London stores are having to introduce "emergency plans" to help Father Christmas cope with the crowds.

A Kingston store has hired two Father Christmases and a "stand-in." Last year the store had only one and a relief.

"We have an intricate system of doors which prevents the

children from realising there is more than one Father Christmas and have found the scheme a great success so far," said a member of the store.

Another attraction is Jimminy Jingle, Father Christmas's clerk.

He "lives" in a small house and the children see him and talk to him through the letter box. They are not allowed to go inside because a series of mirrors makes him look only a foot high.

An Oxford Street store has introduced Uncle Holly (the man in Father Christmas's workshop who helps prepare the toys) to children.

He is an "old man" with white "side-boards" and shaggy eye-brows who wears a green highwayman's coat over grey trousers, a grey top hat and a yellow waistcoat decorated with green holly leaves.

"He is a great success. Some of the children even prefer him to Father Christmas," a man at the store said.



Keith Merriman, aged three-and-a-half, of Enfield, gets a close-up of model trains.



This is Uncle Holly.

GAMES FOR THE PARTY

(Answers On Page 21)

THE KANGAROO

HERE'S an energetic kind of game to warm the party up. Lay out four rows of thin, light sticks. Place the sticks about three feet apart and have as many as the room will permit. Select a player for each row. At the word "Go" all players must start to hop on one foot over each stick in the row. When the player has crossed the last stick, he turns round, still on one foot, and starts back. This time, he must stoop down and pick up each stick after he has hopped over it. If he drops a stick or loses his balance he must start all over again. The winner is the first one to bring back all the sticks in his row.

PUZZLE IT OUT

Christmas centre-piece of six letters spell out under puzzler's license. Discover it:

1. Square.
2. Kind of boat.
3. Rolled in Scotland.
4. Miss Stammers answers to it.
5. Wind or vitamin.
6. Railway terminus.

SPELLING BEE

Where—if anywhere—are the following words spelled wrongly? Ask your party guests. Opposum, cultrass, evanescent, erissipellus, irresistable, terrestial, supercede, lycell, embarrased, servicable.

GUESSING GAME

This game needs no skill or knowledge—it is sheer guesswork.

Display a series of objects whose number or weight Christmas party guests must guess and write down. One point is allowed for each correct guess, or (if none is correct) for the guess which is nearest the right answer. The person who has most points wins.

Suggested items: 1. Weight of a milk bottle (empty). 2. Number of pins in a small box. 3. Length of a piece of string. 4. Number of words on the page of a certain book. 5. Number of pages in a certain closed book. 6. Quantity of water in a cooking pan. 7. Number of cubic feet in the room. 8. Number of yards in a long piece of thread. 9. Weight of the party host. 10. The number of playing cards held in the host's hand.

WRONG IS RIGHT

Form two lines, one of men and one of girls. Let them stand up and face one another. The object of this game is to answer questions "incorrectly" and anyone giving the correct answer must sit down. The man at the head of the line starts by asking the girl opposite him a question. She must answer immediately, and if she answers the question correctly she must sit down and be de-

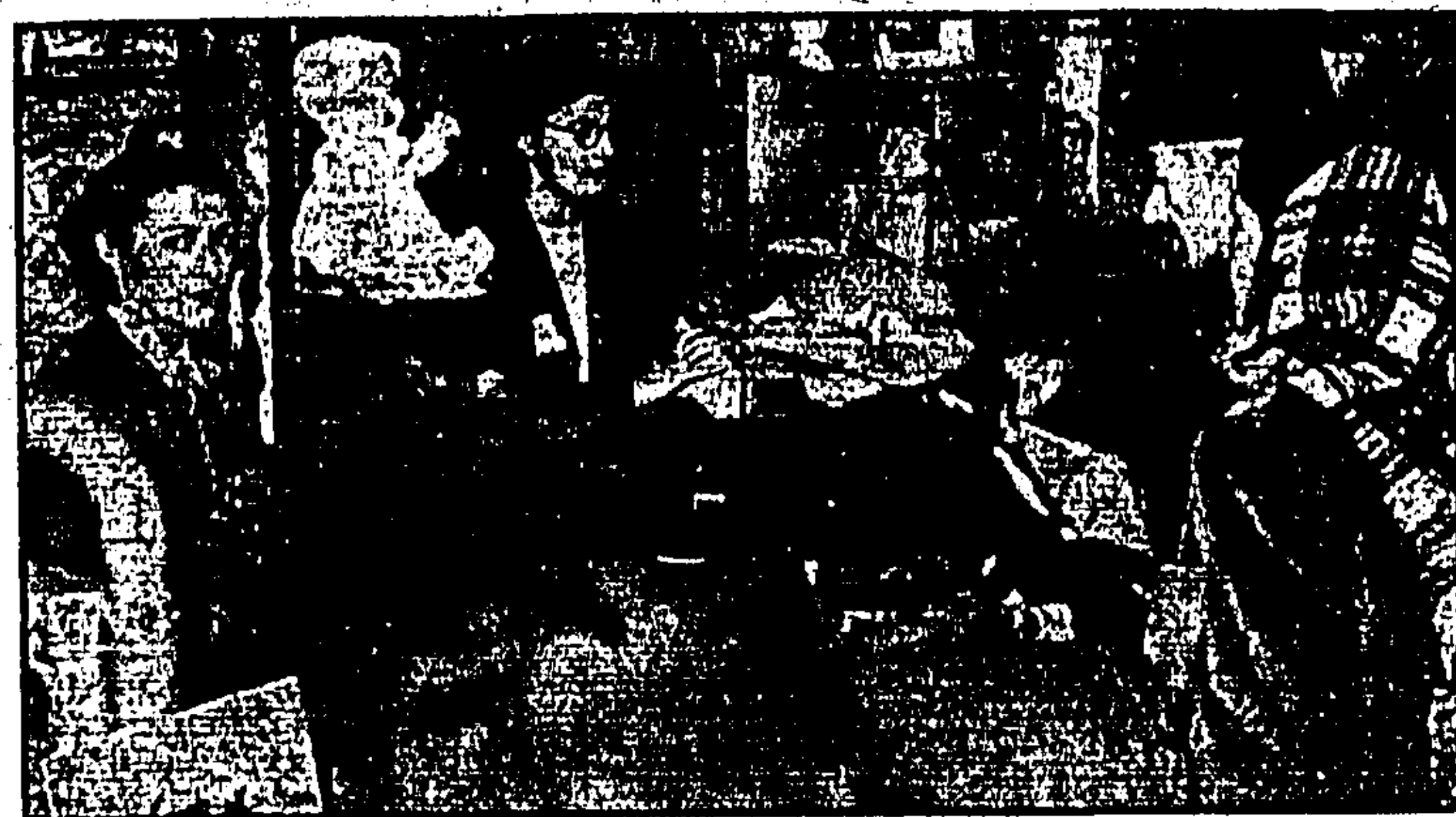
clined out of the game. If she gives the wrong answer she must ask the next man in the line (the second man) another question, and so on down the line and back again. The winner is the one who remains standing the longest. Answers to all questions must be immediate—hesitation puts a player out of the game.

INTELLIGENCE TEST

1. Fill in the missing terms in the following analogy: Sheep is to... as is to searain.
2. FECOND is the opposite of Cold, barren, parched, moribund?
3. What will this sentence be when the words are arranged in the right order: "interrupting your one put no stop in?"
4. How many eyes are there in half a hundred?
5. Which of these numbers does not belong in the same group as the other four? 1. 2. 3. 4. 5.
6. Fill in the missing words in the following sentence: "We have not... sand... castle... the yard."
7. A PENNON is: An article of clothing, a piece of ornamental architecture, a flag, a fencing term?
8. Add the next two terms to the following series: 36 35 32 27....
9. And here is a series which is rather more difficult. It is made by combining the successive members of two separate series in a certain way. See if you can add the next two terms: 7 18 30 40 45....
10. FAIR EXCHANGE. I left my umbrella in the hall stand as I came in. There were two others there, one with a malacca handle and one with a handle of the knobby kind which is called whinge. When I came into the sitting room Jones was there with Cartwright and Burnaby. Roberts joined us later. I was the second to leave, but my umbrella had already gone; the malacca and the whinge umbrellas were still there, along with hickory one. I did not exactly know what to do, but I was in a hurry and so I took the malacca one. The next time I saw Burnaby he was carrying the whinge handled umbrella. Jones, our host, never keeps an umbrella. Assuming that no one took the same umbrella as he brought with him, who has got mine now?

WHAT'S MOVED?

Let your friends make a thorough survey of the room. Allow five minutes for this, and then send them all into another room, while you make a number of alterations in the first room, being careful to write these down to avoid any mistake. Now call your guests back, hand each a piece of paper and a pencil, and ask them to write down all the changes that have been made. Allow five minutes for this. The player with the greatest number of correct answers wins.



The crowd at a doll counter in a Regent Street store.

THERE WILL BE 200 DEMON KINGS

"A N English dramatic performance ending with transformation scene followed by broad comedy of clown and Columbine." Thus goes the official dictionary definition of a Christmas show that is peculiarly British.

Like everything else, however, dictionary definitions can get a little out of date. "Dramatic" for instance, in that definition is a little confusing to modern ears. For Drama, to most, conjures up the vision of highly-strung nerves, tense atmospheres and frightened people. While these may have been some of the ingredients of pantomime 50 years ago, nothing of this kind is included in the show of today which is designed primarily for children.

story. It is always interrupted by variety acts, such as juggling or dancing, which have no connection with the plot, but simply add to the amusement. Great use is made of trap-doors and sulphur flashes for the entrance or exit of the Demon King (every pantomime has a Demon King in some form or other). The Fairy Queen always carries a magic wand, and the hero and the heroine always live happily ever after.

of "Puss in Boots." This is the story of the cat which, rather on the lines of the Pied Piper of Hamelin, disposes of large rats, small rats, tawny rats, old rats, young rats, grey rats and all the other rodent species which have been bothering the people in the story.

Incidentally, it would perhaps be rather a good idea at this stage to point out that Tommy Trinder is one of London's own "Cockney" comedians, and for that reason he has been included in the Palladium show. Pantomime promoters try whenever possible to include local born artists for shows in their native town or county.

These are all things that children can understand. They are the basis of pantomime, and their intention is to please the childish mind. And yet it is amazing that to bring a child to see a pantomime performance requires the services of at least four adults.

The grown-ups always give the excuse, "Well, we had promised Jennifer Ann (or whatever the name is) a long time ago that we would bring her to see the show, and she would have been disappointed if we had not come with her."

BY PETER PENNYLESS

PANTOMIME performances take place in the ordinary theatre but from there on, the only resemblance between pantomime and theatre proper is, as careful authors say, "purely coincidental."

To start with, the principal boy is always a girl. That may sound Irish. Then, the part of the old woman (there is always an old woman in pantomime, be she the ugly sister, the widowed mother or the wicked witch) is invariably played by a man.

That in itself is enough to make pantomime no ordinary show, but there is still one more remarkable fact which has not yet been mentioned. Pantomime is intended primarily for the children, but it has such an attraction for the older members of the community that adults outnumber children in the audience by two to one.

THE pantomime story is always kept as simple as possible. Usually it is based on some fairy tale such as Cinderella, or Jack and the Beanstalk. And, while sticking to the original

And so today more and more adults attend children's pantomimes. So Pantomimes all over Britain outlive the Christmas season, by several weeks, and in some parts of the country it is usual to find pantomime in February and even March and April.

To cater for this increased adult audience more and more pantomimes now include stars of radio and variety in their cast. The people bring a sophisticated humour to the show which suits the adult mind and, incidentally, creates the excuse for attending if there are no children in the family.

But, first and foremost, the pantomime should be the children's pleasure, and for that reason everything ought to be performed as simply as possible, and with a complete absence of any strong dramatic or horror scenes.

The "something for everyone" atmosphere has made pantomime a firm family favourite, and such is its popularity that this Christmas there will be over 200 shows in various parts of Britain.

ONE exception, however, is the excuse, "Well, we had promised Jennifer Ann (or whatever the name is) a long time ago that we would bring her to see the show, and she would have been disappointed if we had not come with her."

ALL these articles are household names on the British stage. But even without any stars the Pantomime still attracts the crowd. This is because it caters specially for the children, but at the same time has something to offer for the whole family.

Pantomime producers are very proud of their long record of successes. They realise that the pantomime is almost, without exception, the first view that a child has of the stage. And they know that if the child likes pantomime, in later life he or she will appreciate the other forms of entertainment which the stage has to offer, and therefore in pleasing the children they are making sure of the audience of the future.

So Queen Anne lives on in Reno

From NEWELL ROGERS

NEW YORK.

THE ghosts of Queen Anne and her lawyers haunt the gamblers of Reno, America's divorce capital, tonight.

Gambling is Reno's second largest industry. The divorce business comes first.

The State of Nevada collects taxes from the city's casinos. Since they are respectable taxpayers, the proprietors want the courts to help to collect gambling debts.

So one used to collect \$30,700 for cheques signed by Colorado society man Leonard Wolff just before he died.

Judge Merwyn Brown said "No." And he based his decision on an ancient statute of Queen Anne adopted with England's common law, by Nevada.

The gamblers are appealing to Nevada's Supreme Court on the ground of their rights as taxpayers.

Footnote: Illinois Supreme Court is to pass on an Illinois law to permit men, as well as women, to collect alimony. Mrs. La Verne Wahler, a \$200-a-month bank teller, has just been ordered to pay her crippled ex-Serviceman husband \$113 a week alimony. She has appealed.

BOREDOM and let-down on retirement are killing off so many people, says Dr. Alonzo Myers of New York University, that a school should be started to train them for leisure.

LAST BOAC airliner has flown out of LaGuardia airport. BOAC's 70 airport workers pulled into lorries and station wagons for the 13-mile trip to New York's larger Idlewild airport, new terminals for flights from London. LaGuardia's runways are not long enough for the new U.S. Stratocruisers bought by the BOAC for the North Atlantic service.

CORSET-MAKERS are alarmed by the new fashion trend to the flat-chested flapper of the 1920's. Fashion stylists are debating whether padded shoulders and hips are doomed. One of them is going to London to see British styles. He also plans to buy British woollens for women's clothes.

NATIONALISED industry has been banned from New York State by Tom Dewey for as long as he is Governor. One out of every 13 Americans lives in Dewey's domain.

BRITAIN will get thousands more tourists next summer because the Cunard Line is going to turn round some of its ships more speedily. But the hulls will not apply to the two Queens. They have to take aboard 77,000 lb. of meat, 66,000 lb. of potatoes, 170,000 eggs, 4,400 quarts of ice cream, 1 1/4 million gallons of water, and 60,000 pieces of clean linen.

ACTH, a hormone drug said to help sufferers from arthritis, asthma, and gout, is being black-marketed by spivs at \$100 (£35 10s.) for one ounce of an ounce. Even at that price it is an impure product. Doctors warn that the drug can cause convulsions and mental trouble.

London has airport safety plan

TWO new electronic safety devices are to be installed at London Airport before the winter fogs and long nights arrive.

One is a "scanner" which, every five seconds, will check the airport's lighting system, and warn the authorities if any of the lights on the vast airfield have gone out.

The other is an electronic detector, working on sound, which in bad visibility will let the controller know the exact position of an aircraft on the runway.

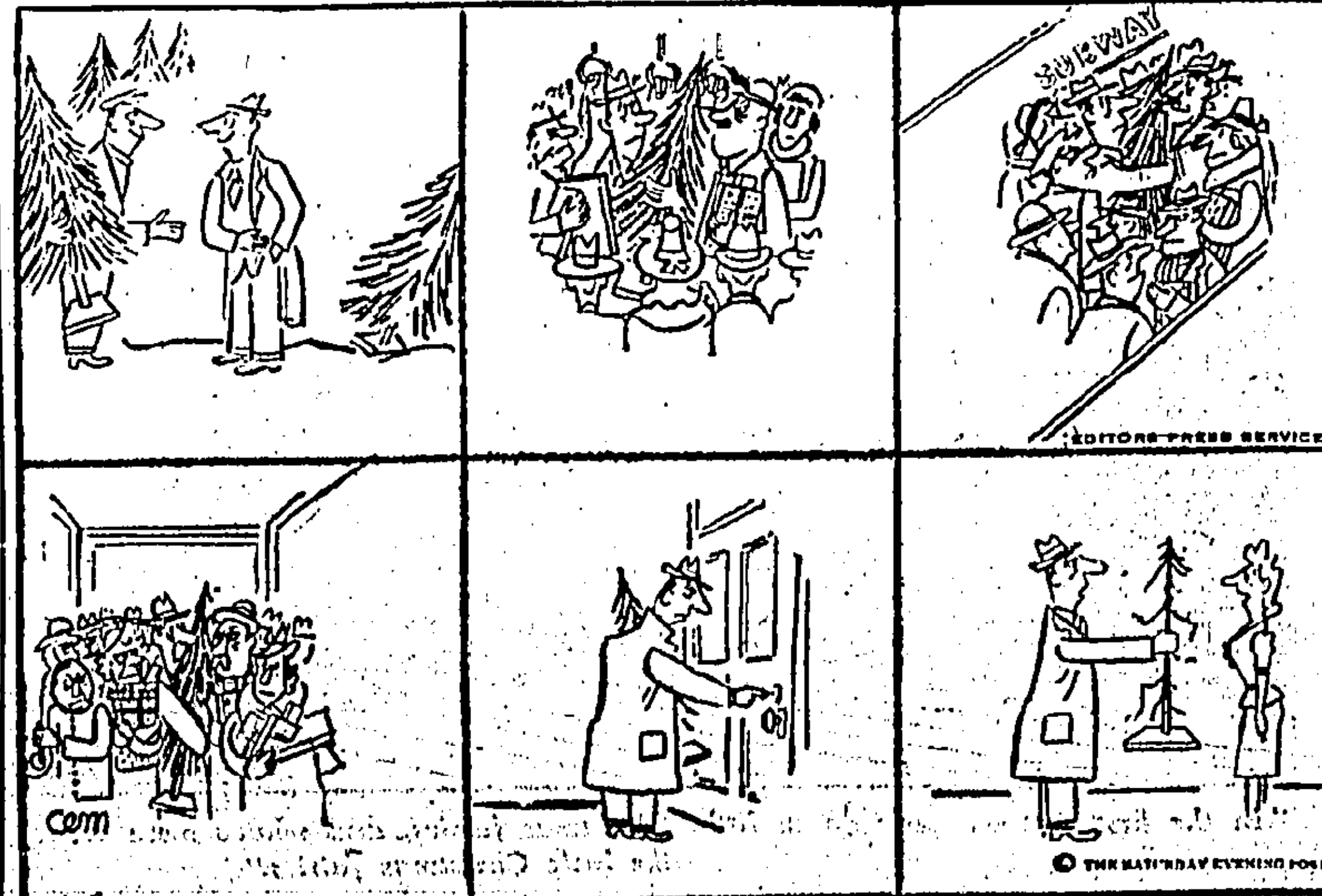
It will also warn him if there is any obstruction on the runway, such as an airport worker.

Both devices, I understand, are prototypes and will undergo development as time goes on.

By the time the airport is completed it will use as much electricity as a town of 40,000 people, using 3,000 circuits totalling 600 miles of cable.

Two rivers, the Duke of Northumberland's and the Longford, are being diverted to prevent flooding. Their new channels have already been dug.

The underground tunnels which ultimately will take passenger coaches up to the central terminal buildings have been started.





Britain's No.1 Cigarette

Britain's number one Virginia cigarette — factory-fresh from London, brings to you the world famous standard of quality set by Carreras, makers of Britain's best cigarettes for over 150 years.

CELLOPHANE SEALED ALUMINUM CONTAINERS 10's, 20's, 40's



Sole Agents:—DODWELL & CO., LTD.



BLUE BAND MARGARINE

... it's delicious!

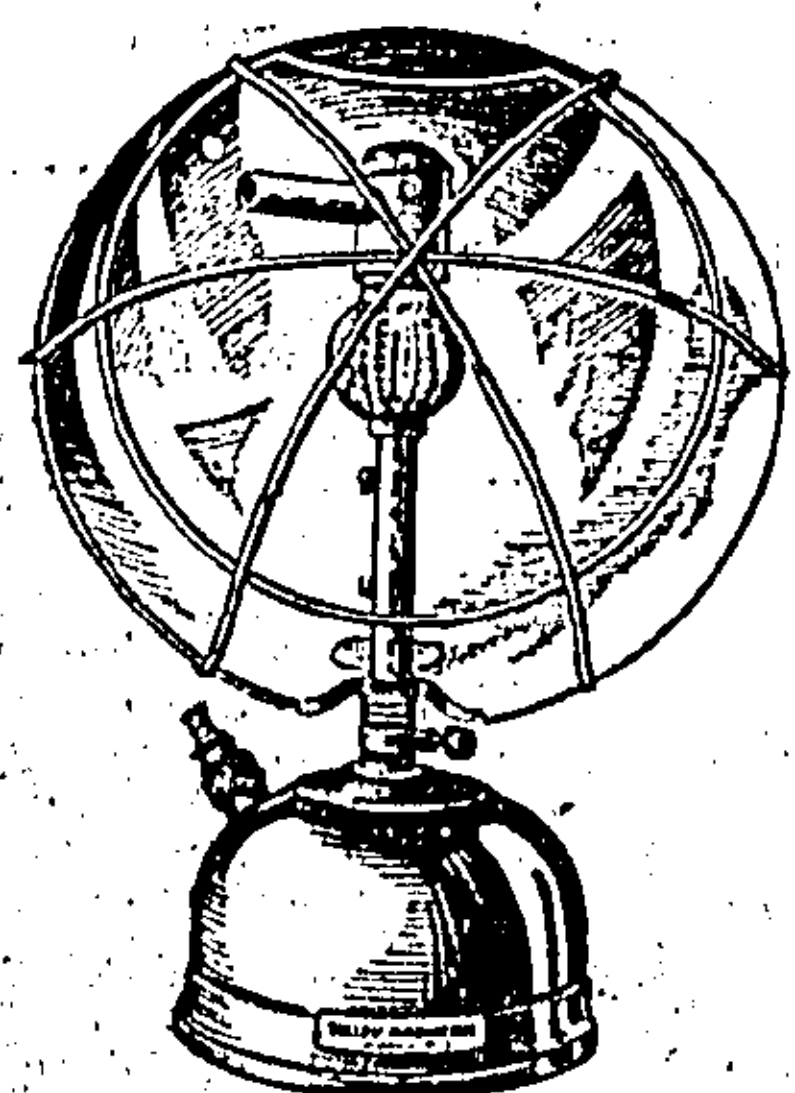
... it's nourishing!

Spread Blue Band on your biscuits and bread. You will taste its delicious flavour and it is a fine nourishing food, too. It contains the Vitamins that will help to make you strong and healthy. For flavour and nourishment you cannot beat Blue Band. Buy some today.

FRESH PACKET

BLUE BAND MARGARINE \$1.55

TILLEY RADIATORS



AN EXTREMELY ECONOMICAL FORM OF HEATING

GIVE A HEAT EQUAL TO 1 1/4 KILOWATTS

CONSUME 1 1/4 PINTS OF KEROSENE IN 10 HOURS

ON SALE AT ALL HARDWARE STORES

YU TUNG TAI LTD.

HOLIDAYS AT HOME

OCCUPANT OF COUNTRY MANOR HOUSE, RETIRED FROM EAST, OFFERS GUESTS A REAL HOME FOR 16 GUINEAS PER MONTH

650 ACRES ROUGH SHOOTING, RIDING AND BILLIARDS WITHOUT EXTRA CHARGE PROVIDED GUESTS "DO OWN CHORES" APART FROM SHOPPING AND COOKING.

PASCHOE HOUSE, BOW, CREDITON, DEVON.



"Never mind about whether I'd be more gainfully employed doing a minor's job—take your dip and 'op it.'"

London Express Service

GHOSTS THAT 'WALK' ON CHRISTMAS EVE

By W. H. OWENS

CHRISTMAS EVE is not only a favourite time for telling ghost stories, but is traditionally one of the nights of the year when these strange phantoms are said to make their brief reappearance on earth.

In every part of Great Britain, there are famous old castles, abbey ruins, mansions, and lonely manor houses which are believed to be haunted by the ghosts of persons who once lived in them. Several of these time-honoured ghosts are reported to have been seen or heard in fairly recent years, and, of course, new ones are occasionally added.

Hampton Court Palace is the most haunted of all Britain's royal homes, recalling memories of unhappy queens. For here, when the gatehouse clock has struck midnight, on Christmas Eve, the ghosts of Lady Jane Grey and Catherine Howard wander forth through the old apartments, and that corner of the palace called the Haunted Gallery.

TRADITION has it that, on the night before her execution, poor Catherine Howard escaped from her guards and rushed towards the chapel to make a last appeal for mercy to Henry VIII, who was attending Mass there. And, on many occasions since, the figure of the "Strouded Lady," bearing a lighted candle, making her hopeless flight through the palace.

Windsor Castle has Charles I and Queen Elizabeth among its royal ghosts. On Christmas Eve, fifty-two years ago, the spectre of a lady wearing a black-lace mantilla, said to resemble a portrait of 'Good Queen Bess,' was reported by one of the guards on duty along the castle walls. In the Great Park, outside, the shadowy figure of Horne the hunter, slain after midnight about the side of the famous oak tree named after him.

Even Westminster Abbey can boast at least one haunting, though the origin of this ghost is unknown. But twice within the last quarter-of-a-century the mysterious 'Cowled Monk' has startled visitors to the cloisters. The last occasion being in 1932. Apparently, it glides about with its feet an inch or two above the paving stones—the floor level, presumably, of the days when the ghost was a living monk, wont to walk these self-same paving stones.

ONE of England's most famous haunted houses is Newstead Abbey, a few miles from Nottingham, which was the home of Lord Byron. Originally, the place was an Augustinian monastery, founded in the reign of Henry II, but after the Dissolution, it passed to the Byron family, who held the property until 1818.

The best-known of the Newstead ghosts is the 'Black Friar,' which was reputed to manifest itself before a death, or the occurrence of some personal misfortune, to a member of the Byron family. Lord Byron himself, it is said, had been seen by his unhappy marriage to

Miss Millbank, and he describes the incident in one of his poems. The poet also had the fancy that portraits of his forefathers on the walls would leave their frames to haunt him, notably his great-uncle, Sir John Byron.

Bisham Abbey, a beautiful Tudor mansion, on the banks of the Thames near the village of Bisham, has been haunted for centuries by a murderer's ghost. Here lived Sir Thomas Hobby and his wife Elizabeth, a woman of unnatural cruelty who murdered one of her children. Tradition has it that her haunted spirit returns again and again to the house. In fact, Lady Hobby's ghost has been seen in the room where she committed her crime, trying in vain to rid its hands of bloodstains.

HIGHER up the Thames Valley is the ruined manor house of Stanton Harcourt, where Alexander Pope lived between 1716 and 1718, and completed his translation of Homer's Iliad. Close to the ruins is the Lady's Pool, so-called because a beautiful young girl was once found drowned there after a broken love affair. At Christmas time, whenever the pool rises, her ghost, robed in a long, white gown, forsakes its resting place awhile, and wanders through the melancholy, roofless rooms of the former mansion.

Ladies in white seem to be extremely common in the world of spooks, and there is hardly a county in Britain without one. But perhaps the strangest of all such apparitions is the ghost of Lady Lightfoot, which haunts the Old Court House at Shelsley Walsh, in Worcestershire. Some time during the sixteenth century, this lady was imprisoned and cruelly murdered, in the mansion by an unknown killer. Local people will tell you that, about midnight each Christmas Eve, she rides through the place in a phantom carriage, drawn by a team of four fiery horses. Then the carriage plunges headlong into the moat surrounding the walls, and is not seen again for another year.

A REMARKABLE kind of ghost story is associated with Burton Agnes Hall, near Bridlington, in Yorkshire. About 300 years ago, a daughter of the family was killed in the house, and it was said that her head might be preserved in the Great Hall for ever.

And so, to this day, the girl's skull remains in its original position on the walls, and there is a strong belief around the neighbourhood that its deliberate removal might portend some dreadful calamity. Some years ago, nevertheless, a sceptical visitor laughed at the notion of such superstition, and displaced the skull. Almost immediately, weird noises were to be heard about the house, and doors banged in eerie succession. These ghostly happenings proved so terrifying that, before any explanation was sought, the skull was hastily restored to its place, and it has not been taken down since.

Somewhere under the beautiful Norman ruins of Lilleshall Abbey, near Newport, in the county of Shropshire, is a secret passage which is said to have been sealed up by the Conqueror

soldiers, and never since located. Strange noises coming from underground and a 'miraculous' bloodstain on the stone floor gave rise to the story of the ghost of a monk who was murdered there long ago. Earlier in this century, when there was much speculation about the mystery, a reward of £50 was actually offered for the discovery of the hidden passage. Archaeologists and water-diviners made investigations, but the riddle of the Lilleshall monk is still unsolved.

Scotland, of course, has several haunted castles dotted over its lonely moors and glens, and many an eerie tale is told of them. Glamis Castle, ancestral home of Queen Elizabeth, and seat of the Earls of Strathmore, has been the scene of many supernatural happenings, and contains an apartment whose grim secret is known only to the owner and his heir. Beautiful Roslyn Castle has a haunted chapel which is said to be lit by an unearthly radiance when a member of the St Clair family is about to die.

BUT the most gruesome story concerns Hermitage Castle, an ancient Borderland stronghold in the Liddesdale valley of Roxburghshire. Standing starkly against the sky on the edge of desolate moorland, it seems the perfect example of a haunted ruin.

Here lived the terrible William, Lord Soules, who, among other diabolical attainments, practised the art of Black

Magic, and terrified the inhabitants of the neighbouring countryside. It was his custom to kidnap young children and take them to a secret dungeon of his castle, where he is supposed to have murdered them and used their blood in the performance of his unholy rites. After years of suffering at the hands of this baron, the people rose against him. Waylaid by a band of the strongest men, he was bound with iron chains and hurried away to meet a fearful death in a cauldron of boiling lead. Even today, local folk fear to go anywhere near Hermitage Castle on dark wintry nights, where they believe the restless soul of Lord Soules returns to reenact his crimes of long ago.

ANOTHER Scottish castle celebrated for its hauntings is Cortachy Castle, the Fortarshire seat of the Ogilvy family, who have borne the title of Earls of Airlie since the time of Charles I. The story tells of a handsome young drummer in the service of a former Earl who fell in love with his master's beautiful wife. One day, the Earl discovered this youth making advances to the Countess, and, in a fit of jealous rage, ordered that he should be sealed in his own drum and thrown to his death from the highest turret of the castle.

So, from time to time, the 'ghostly drummer of Cortachy' has reappeared, making itself heard distinctly outside the castle walls, usually before the death of a member of the Ogilvy family. This has actually happened on more than one occasion within the last century.

Observed In Japan



Japanese youngsters admire, and yet seem perplexed at, a Christmas tree set up in Mainichi Hall, Tokyo. Despite only 200,000 of Japan's 80,000,000 people being Christians, the celebration and observance of Christmas Day is becoming increasingly popular in the country.

Biro Minor



There is no limit to the usefulness of Biro Minor with its four colours—blue, red, green, black. It writes smoothly and efficiently; it takes excellent carbon copies; it has a protective cap which allows you to carry it around; refills can be inserted in a second or two.

Obtainable in blue, red, green, and black cases. Refills with inks to correspond with colour of case.

Biro Minor

DOES A GOOD JOB anywhere

Distributors in Hong Kong: JARDINE MATHESON & CO. LTD., IMPORTS DEPARTMENT POST OFFICE BOX 70, HONG KONG, CHINA

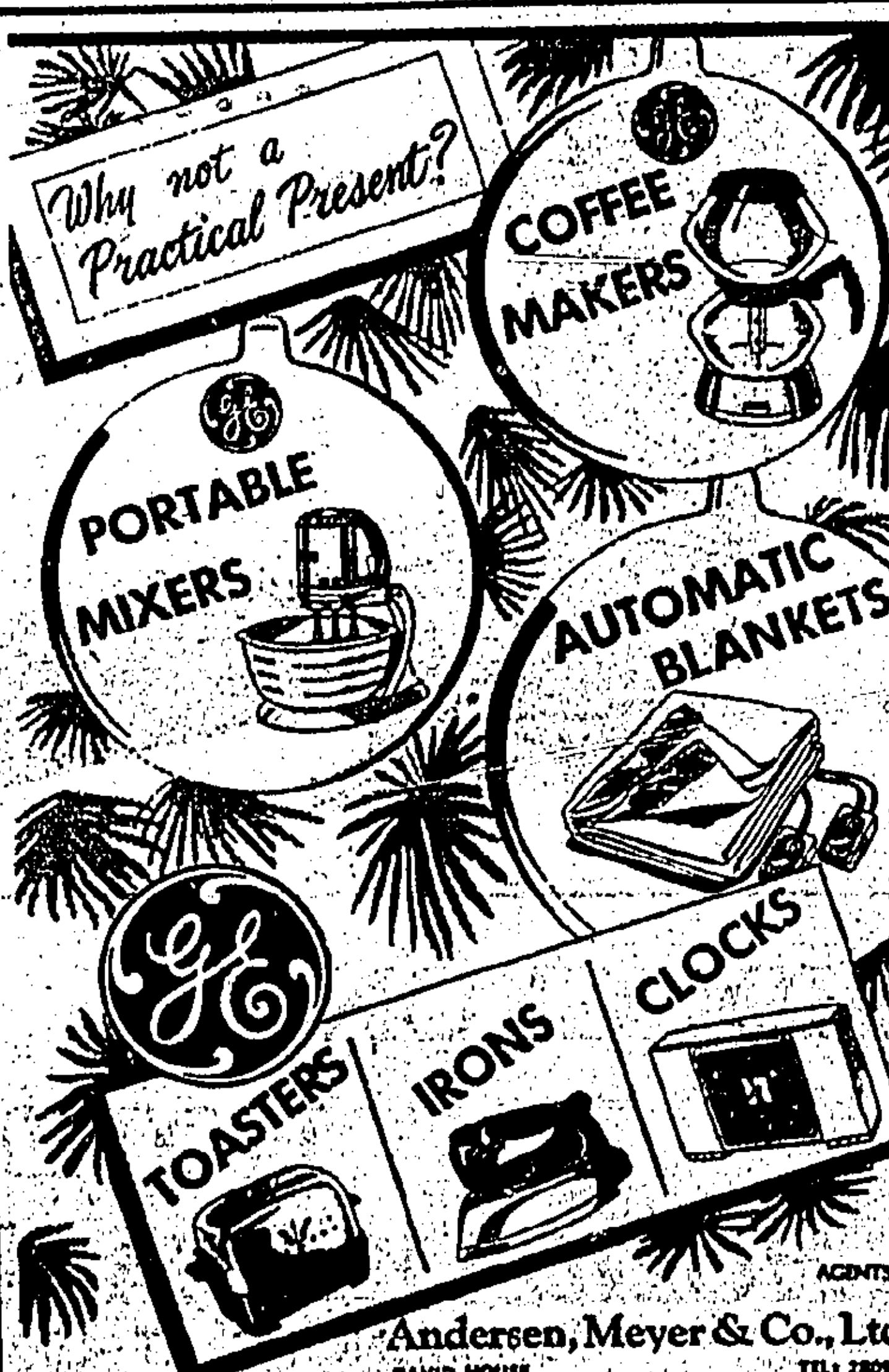
Hospitality



Drink Coca-Cola Ice-Cold



Bottled under authority of the Coca-Cola Co. by HONG KONG BOTTLING COMPANY LTD.



Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd. DAVID HOUSE TEL: 22091



St. John Ambulance Brigade

FREE AMBULANCE SERVICE

Tel. Hongkong 26093 Kowloon 50000

ROWNTREES

FACTORY-FRESH

CHOCOLATES!



Perfect gift solution for everyone on your Christmas gift list!

Sole Agents:

GILMAN & CO., LTD.

A magnificent story-teller's finest novel

Reviewed by GEORGE MALCOLM THOMSON

THE PARASITES. By Daphne du Maurier. (Collins. 11s. 350 pages.)

HERE is the finest story of a magnificent story-teller. For sheer, simple power to command the attention and to supply entertainment, *The Parasites* is not surpassed in this present season.

Parasites? Had they been an ordinary family, the Delaneys would have hurled the accusation back at Charles when he delivered it. For what, come to think of it, is Charles but an idle country gentleman pottering about the estate until such time as his father dies whereupon he will potter about the House of Lords?

But the Delaneys, whatever else they may be, are not in the least ordinary. They are also both something more and something less than a family.

More, because they are united by invisible strands of understanding and nostalgia beyond the lot of mere kindred.

And less because Maria is the daughter of Pappy and a Viennese actress; Niall is the son of Maria and that French musician; only Celia, child of Maria and Pappy, is in the full sense of the name a Delaney.

SINCE they are the Delaneys and since they have lived as children that preposterous, ex-

cluding, circus life with Mama (the great dancer) and Pappy (the famous singer), it does not occur to them that Charles, Maria's husband, is behaving unjustly and with exceptional selfishness.

That he is the real parasite, sucking life out of his inherited acres. And that his indignant, shaming outburst towards the close of that long, wet Sunday afternoon is nothing but preliminary self-justification for his next disclosure: Charles wants Maria to divorce him so that he may marry "Carolyn," a horsey jolly neighbour in the country.

No, Charles's position is untenable. But the Delaneys do not dream of counter-attacking.

They are "different." Always have been. And maybe "parasites" is the right name for that kind of "difference."

Between tea-time and supper the three of them survey the Delaney past, that dazzling panorama, in a mood of regret, self-pity and self-accusation.

The past from which Daphne evolved Niall's irresistible tunes and elusive personality, Maria's acting and Celia's drawings.

The past from which Daphne du Maurier has woven this brilliant novel of the theatre and its people.

Such admirable management of tempo, such barbed dialogue, such capacity for setting the scenes and conjuring up the climaxes. Is it theatrical? It is, as it should be. Theatrical in the well-bred under-stated modern manner.

And such speed in the narration: sometimes, be it acknow-

ledged, speed in the telling at the expense of care in the writing—but how little it matters!

All this fused with the author's inherited feeling for the stage, and the faint, compunctious and distrust with which she regards its people—those gods and victims of their public whom she dissects with a mixture of rueful good sense, insight and compassion.

★

THE Delaneys dwell in a great fuss of adulation and the best hotel suites.

They are spirited, eccentric and extravagant. They have fun.

Until Maria, glorious Maria, dies, in a cliff accident in Brittany—just on the day Maria (with a young Frenchman) makes her first experiment with life.

Pappy is robust, noisy and inconsolable—or almost so, for what singer is ever without comfort who has still an adoring audience.

Pappy takes to the bottle and makes a slave of Celia, the plain one.

The others have fled. Maria to the stage and her lovers, Niall to his tunes and to Paris with Fredda, Pappy's old friend. For quite ten minutes Pappy is livid over this seduction. He goes off to the Garrick Club to denounce Fredda to his pals (I doubt if Pappy really did.)

★

WHEN Maria marries Charles the Delaneys make a state visit to Coldham, Charles's family mansion. Pappy disgraces himself over the champagne. It is a scene of gentle farce in a tale which is, by turns, sentimental and funny, with the sparkle of life over all.

You may say that the end—where the Delaney trio resolve



She dissects with good sense. **DAPHNE DU MAURIER**

to reform—is adroit rather than convincing. But by that time it is not of much consequence. An enormously capable and diverting novel.

"Best selling novelist Daphne du Maurier has been described as a writer whose books 'send film producers reaching for their cheque books.' She was reputed to have received nearly £1,000,000 for the film rights of *The King's General*. She is the daughter of a famous actor, Sir Gerald du Maurier, and wife of General Sir Frederick Browning, who created the airborne forces during the war. Has three children.

ROANOKE HUNDRED. By Ingila Fletcher. (Hutchinson, 12s. 6d. 384 pages.)

HERE is a fine, rattling, clattering story of the high seas and the American coast in the days of Elizabeth. A story of the first of all the English settlements, on Roanoke Island, off the shores of South Carolina. And of the last fight of the Revenge.

A warm, quick-moving invention, with imagination to give light to the deep historical learning that has been put into it.

Ingila Fletcher, American novelist, has flown to London lately from her plantation home in North Carolina. Her ancestors owned a shipyard in Elizabeth, Devon. Says her book aims at showing the link between the West Country and the early colonisation of America.

VIGNETTES OF LIFE



"Christmas Jitters"

By KEMP STARRETT



SPARE MOMENTS PAGE

McKENNEY
ON BRIDGEUnfortunate Double
Insured This Slam

AKQ	10875	862	K106	J843	982	1094	842
10987	62	KQ	A7	975	None	AJ43	KQJ83
None	AQJ3	None	AQJ3	None	None	None	None
Lesson Hand on Bidding	N-S vul.	South	West	North	East	Pairs	Pairs
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16
17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17
18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18
19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
23	23	23	23	23	23	23	23
24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
25	25	25	25	25	25	25	25
26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
27	27	27	27	27	27	27	27
28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28
29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
33	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
34	34	34	34	34	34	34	34
35	35	35	35	35	35	35	35
36	36	36	36	36	36	36	36
37	37	37	37	37	37	37	37
38	38	38	38	38	38	38	38
39	39	39	39	39	39	39	39
40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
41	41	41	41	41	41	41	41
42	42	42	42	42	42	42	42
43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43
44	44	44	44	44	44	44	44
45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45
46	46	46	46	46	46	46	46
47	47	47	47	47	47	47	47
48	48	48	48	48	48	48	48
49	49	49	49	49	49	49	49
50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50
51	51	51	51	51	51	51	51
52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52
53	53	53	53	53	53	53	53
54	54	54	54	54	54	54	54
55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55
56	56	56	56	56	56	56	56
57	57	57	57	57	57	57	57
58	58	58	58	58	58	58	58
59	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
61	61	61	61	61	61	61	61
62	62	62	62	62	62	62	62
63	63	63	63	63	63	63	63
64	64	64	64	64	64	64	64
65	65	65	65	65	65	65	65
66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66
67	67	67	67	67	67	67	67
68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68
69	69	69	69	69	69	69	69
70	70	70	70	70	70	70	70
71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71
72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72
73	73	73	73	73	73	73	73
74	74	74	74	74	74	74	74
75	75	75	75	75	75	75	75
76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76
77	77	77	77	77	77	77	77
78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78
79	79	79	79	79	79	79	79
80	80	80	80	80	80	80	80
81	81	81	81	81	81	81	81
82	82	82	82	82	82	82	82
83	83	83	83	83	83	83	83
84	84	84	84	84	84	84	84
85	85	85	85	85	85	85	85
86	86	86	86	86	86	86	86
87	87	87	87	87	87	87	87
88	88	88	88	88	88	88	88
89	89	89	89	89	89	89	89
90	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
91	91	91	91	91	91	91	91
92	92	92	92	92	92	92	92
93	93	93	93	93	93	93	93
94	94	94	94	94	94	94	94
95	95	95	95	95	95	95	95
96	96	96	96	96	96	96	96
97	97	97	97	97	97	97	97
98	98	98	98	98	98	98	98
99	99	99	99	99	99	99	99
100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

BY WILLIAM E. McKENNEY

WE all hear players say, "I never can win at bridge." Whenever I hear that remark, it brings back to memory a famous comment of the late F. H. H. Sims. He said that the first lesson a beginner at contract should learn is to make good cards work for him and not wreck him.

In today's hand most of the North and South pairs in a tournament arrived at a slam contract. Some pairs played the hand at six diamonds. One pair played it at six clubs for some unknown reason. Both six diamonds and six clubs made.

At one table South got to six hearts, which West promptly doubled. That was where he made his big mistake. He knew he could defeat six hearts, because he had a heart trick and the ace of diamonds. He had bid spades, but he did not have the top of the spade suit. With the strong bidding on the part of North and South, he could not expect to find the top spades in the opponents' hands. Why not be content when you can beat a slam contract in your own hand, and pass it?

In this particular case, when West doubled six hearts, North went to six no trump. It is true that if East had led a heart, the six no trump contract also would have been defeated. But East elected to lead his partner's suit. Declarer won the trick, knocked out the ace of diamonds, and claimed twelve tricks for his contract.

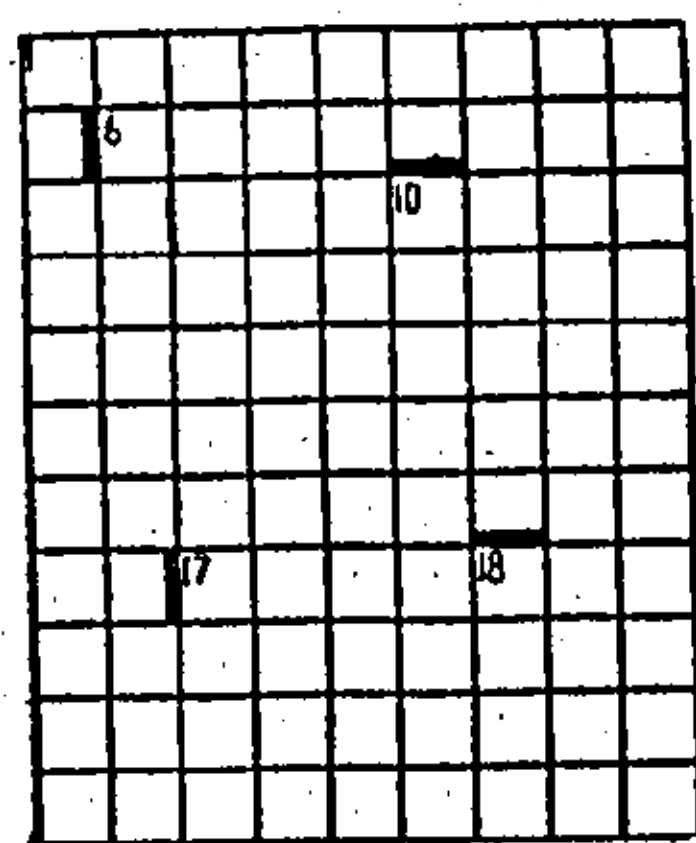
DUMB BELLS

REGISTERED U.S. PATENT OFFICE

DID YOU CANCEL ALL MY ENGAGEMENTS AS I TOLD YOU TO? YES SIR, BUT MISS GLADYS DIDN'T TAKE IT VERY WELL SHE SAID YOU WERE TO MARRY HER WEEK



SKELETON CROSSWORD



peculiar habit.
20 x 24 sheet, perhaps.
10 bit of a nonentity.
11 very young something fishy.
12 holding sort of instruction (two words).
13 (Terrible anger (two words)).
14 it's not left at sea.
15 Take evasive action.
16 Fairly sweet party nasty.
17 A little bit of a villain.
18 Covered with cryptograms.
19 Athens, to the Greeks, might have been a villain.
20 it makes one arid.
21 Finally convalescent.
22 Faded in.
23 His offspring was colossal.
24 Perhaps a red challenge.

CLUES AROUND
1. Possibly related to.
2. Priority of conduct has.

(Solution on this page)

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Dad is reading a book about how to quit worrying—now's the time to hit him for some extra Christmas money!"

BY THE WAY
by Beachcomber

SINCE pressure of idleness makes it impossible for me to write a letter to each one of my forty-eight million seven hundred thousand three hundred and ninety-six readers (advt.), take this opportunity of a general

and comprehensive greeting and salutation. To all I wish a very happy Christmas.

(ENTER stealthily the fairies Crogblossom and Quirtbottle. Their boots slowly fill with sand.)

The Fairy Queen: Elves, get you hence. Nor shall—
Prodnoise (tripping over a stray elf): This column is full of fatrics.

Myself: Isn't that a beautiful idea?
Prodnoise: Yes, but—
An elf: Oh, dear Uncle Prodnoise, will you give me a honey-cake?

Prodnoise (with heavy good-humour): Would you like to turn me into a boiler-works?

The elf: Yes, please, Uncle Prodnoise. (He wants a sound and Prodnoise turns into a boiler-works.)

Tom Thumb (sneakily): You haven't changed much, Uncle Prodnoise.

Two beetles (in chorus): Make way for us!
(ENTER Mother Goose.)

Mother Goose (jazzing her hands at the boiler-works): Resume thy shape, unhappy mortal. (The boiler-works changes back into Prodnoise.)

Fairy Queen: They say ploo sar shongie, ploo say lar mameeshows, And certainly it's true of our Prodnoise.

A witch: Uncle Prodnoise, I shall now change you into a wart-hog. (She does so).
(ENTER a stranger.)

Stranger (accosting wart-hog and raising hat): Mr Prodnoise, I believe.

Prodnoise: How did you recognise me?
Stranger: The witch left your hat on your head. Wart-hogs don't wear hats.

Prodnoise: And is that the only difference between me and other wart-hogs?

Stranger: Since you ask me—yes.

(EXEUNT Mrs Farmer, two dragons, a comic baron, Puss in Boots, Colonel Cranston and the old cat Nobbles).

(ENTER a wart-hog).
Wart-hog: Hello, Prodnoise! Prodnoise (scratching his car with his hoof): Hello!

Witch: Resume thy shapoi (She turns him back into himself).
(ENTER another wart-hog).
Second wart-hog (to Prodnoise): Hello, wart-hog!

YOUR BIRTHDAY By STELLA

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

BORN today, your ambitions are high; your self-confidence vaunting; and your ideals more practical than they seem on the surface. Fond of the cultural and intellectual things of life, it might appear that you care very little for material wealth. This is not so, for you believe that brains should bring a real reward as well as homage, recognition and fame.

For the best results, broaden your outlook on life and learn something about a great many things. With you, the danger is not lack of direction and concentration—but a tendency to concentrate on some single aspect of a problem to the detriment of the wider outlook. You are pugnacious by nature and are ready to fight for your rights at the drop of the hat! In fact, once you get an idea into your

head and decide you are "for" it you'll take issue with one and all who may disagree even slightly. This is a fine trait if not carried too far!

You are naturally affectionate and want the love and admiration of others. If denied expression of this side of your nature, you can be very unhappy, indeed. An early marriage to someone who understands your temperament and will cast a lot, one hundred percent on your side no matter what comes during life, can bring exceptional happiness.

To find what the stars have in store for tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18

BORN today, you have a quiet, magnetic personality which draws people to you, at times almost against your own will. You are not one of those gregarious, "half-fellow-well-met" individuals, but have a compelling forcefulness which lies beneath the surface and comes out unexpectedly.

Because of this, there are those who will not understand you, for you keep your own affairs to yourself. You know what you want to do and how you are going to do it. But until your plans are fully developed, you rarely talk about them. Consequently they may appear to the casual observer as a great surprise—even a reversal of your apparent stand.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—An extra-special day. If you don't get exactly what you want now, it is absolutely your own fault.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Make definite business gains. A day, also, for love and romance. Make the most of everything now.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Your wishes may be coming true, so be prepared to take full advantage of all opportunities for advancement.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 21)—Prospects are bright for home matters as well as for future business plans. The stars are in your favour now.

ARIES (Mar. 22-Apr. 20)—A fine day for being progressively active and for making more than ordinarily good profits at your job.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—You should receive recognition for your endeavours at this time. Your future looks exceedingly bright.

GEMINI (May 22-June 22)—Like your job? If you don't, then this is an auspicious time to attempt to make that change for the better.

CANCER (June 23-July 23)—Seek spiritual inspiration if at all confused about any slightest problem. Make your future plans.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Even your major efforts should be overcome today. Look on the bright side of things for a change!

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 22)—Confer with someone of the feminine sex. Stay away from legal difficulties. Get expert advice if necessary.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—Luck should play an important part in romance. You are likely to find that "one person" today.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—A fine day. You should be able to clear the deck for decision and immediate action on something important.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—You may take a chance on something not yet proved and find it brings excellent results. Experiments pay.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Minor investments of energy will pay fine dividends. Try putting out your entire efforts and see what happens!

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—The day gets better as it progresses. A slow start may wind up to breath-taking speed for you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 21)—Don't take things too fast. Be cautious, for haste can make waste. Efficiency gets the best results now.

ARIES (Mar. 22-Apr. 20)—Follow up yesterday's plans. Put your theories into action and see how successful they can be.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Guard your budget. Don't over-expand. Carelessness causes accidents; be careful!

GEMINI (May 22-June 22)—If travelling, be careful of an accident. Be alert to opportunity. Carry out yesterday's schemes.

CANCER (June 23-July 23)—Be honest with yourself. Know what you want. Go after it. Don't straddle an issue. Come out with what you really mean.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—Don't be discouraged if those plans do not turn out as you expected. There may be minor setbacks, temporarily.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 22)—A fairly good day if you don't expect entirely too much. Over-anticipation is sometimes a mistake.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)—If you have confidence in your ideas as well as in the efforts of others to co-operate, all is well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—A rather dim day as far as emotional matters go, so sidestep definite decisions in that realm.

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

Solution of yesterday's puzzle.

Across: 1, Scapular; 8, Waterloo; 10, Veto; 11, Pours; 12, Eat; 13, Pined; 14, Broody; 15, Tie; 16, Roll; 17, Skin; 19, All; 21, Landau; 22, Cave; 23, Keels; 24, Eye; 25, Deep. Down: 1, Save; 2, Eat to live; 3, P.T.O.; 4, Tepid; 5, Irony; 6, Clue; 7, Lost Cause; 8, Wear; 9, Ordinals; 13, Polled; 14, Brace; 15, Tide; 17, Sake; 18, Kneec; 20, Lay.

Solution of Skeleton Crossword on this page:



ANSWERS TO PARTY GAMES ON PAGE 16

PUZZLE IT OUT

Turkey.

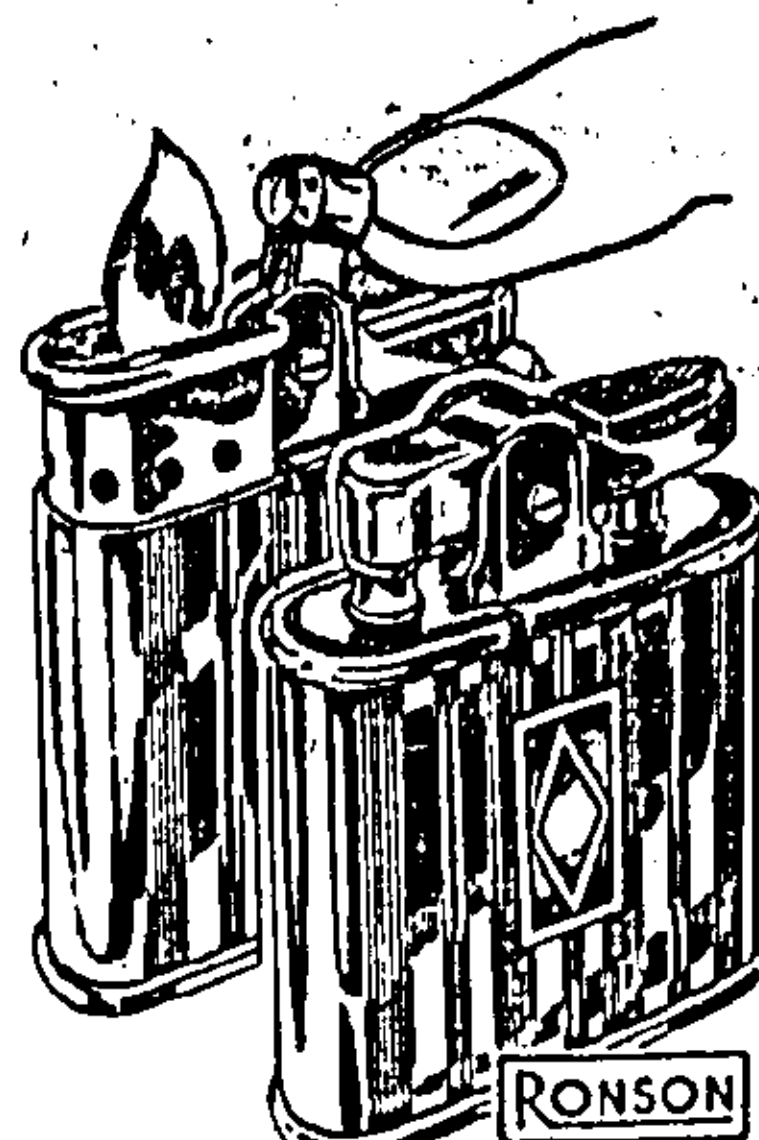
SPELLING BEE

Opossum, cuirass, evanescent, crystalline, irresistible, terrestrial, supercede, icicle, embarrassed, servicable.

INTELLIGENCE TEST

1—Flock, Bee. 2—Barren. 3—

RONSON Gifts ARE "EVER-PRESENTS"

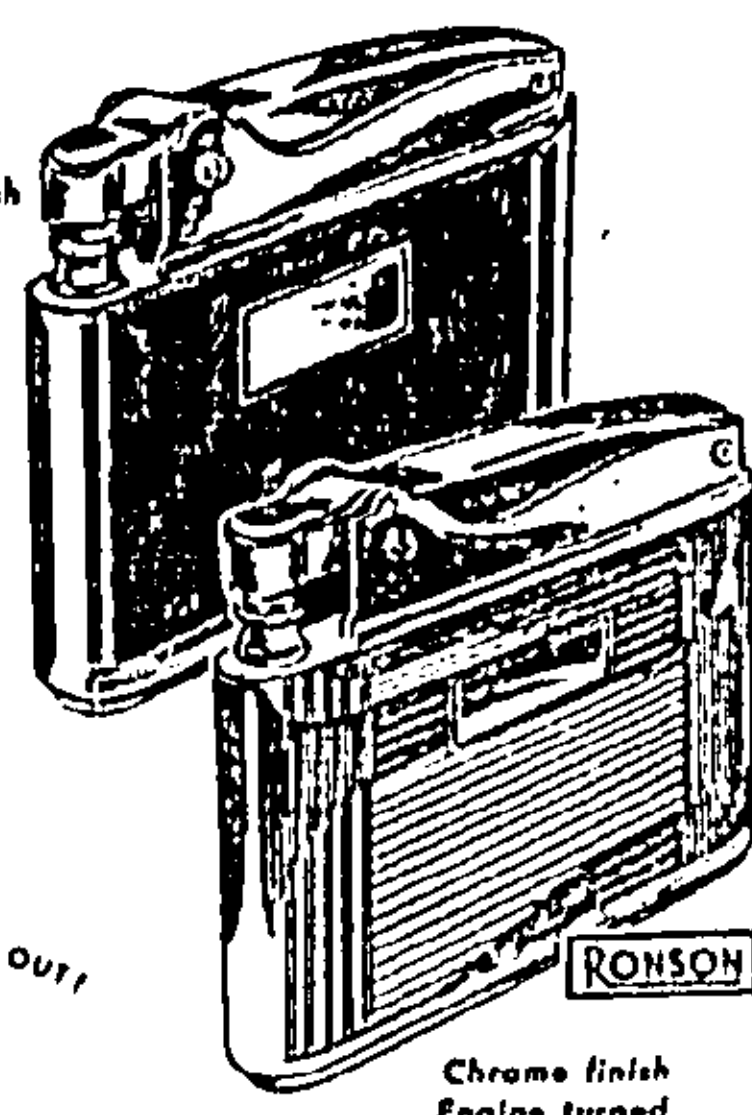


Ronson "Whirlwind", the 2 in 1 lighter with disappearing windshield.

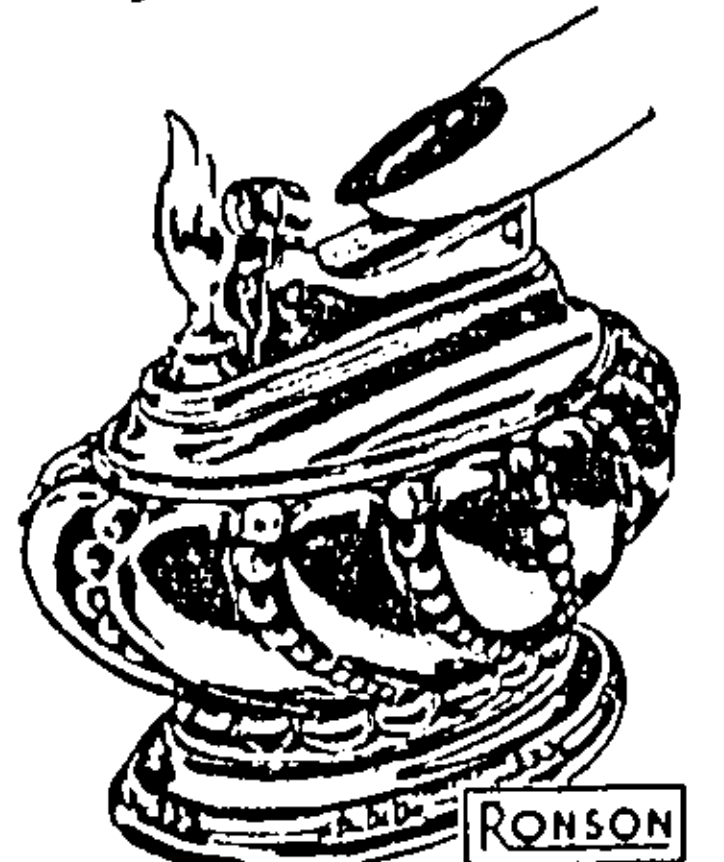


Many times a day, for years to come, Ronson's easy, patented, one-finger, one-motion action will serve your loved ones instant lights... adding to their smoking pleasure while reminding them of the warmth of your affection. Whatever the gift occasion, you give an "ever-present" when you give a Ronson.

Chrome & enamel finish Engine turned



Chrome finish Engine turned

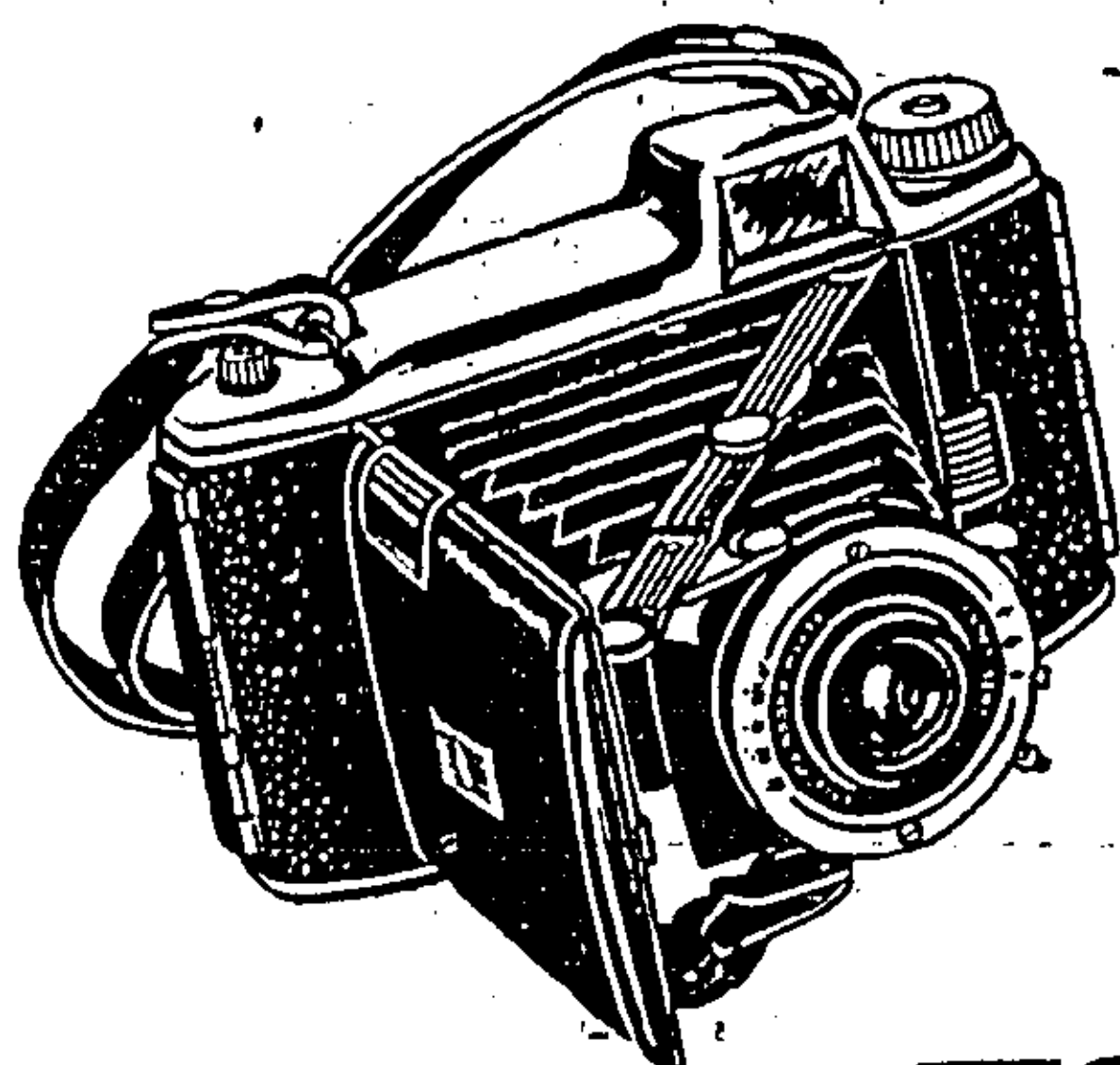


Ronson "Crown" for desk or table... in heavy silver plate.

Sole Agents

ED. A. KELLER & CO., LTD.
Alexandra Building, H.K.

it's easy to get good pictures



WITH THIS Kodak TOURIST Camera

With Kodak Anaston f/4.5
luminized lens and Flash
Kodamatic 1/200 shutter.

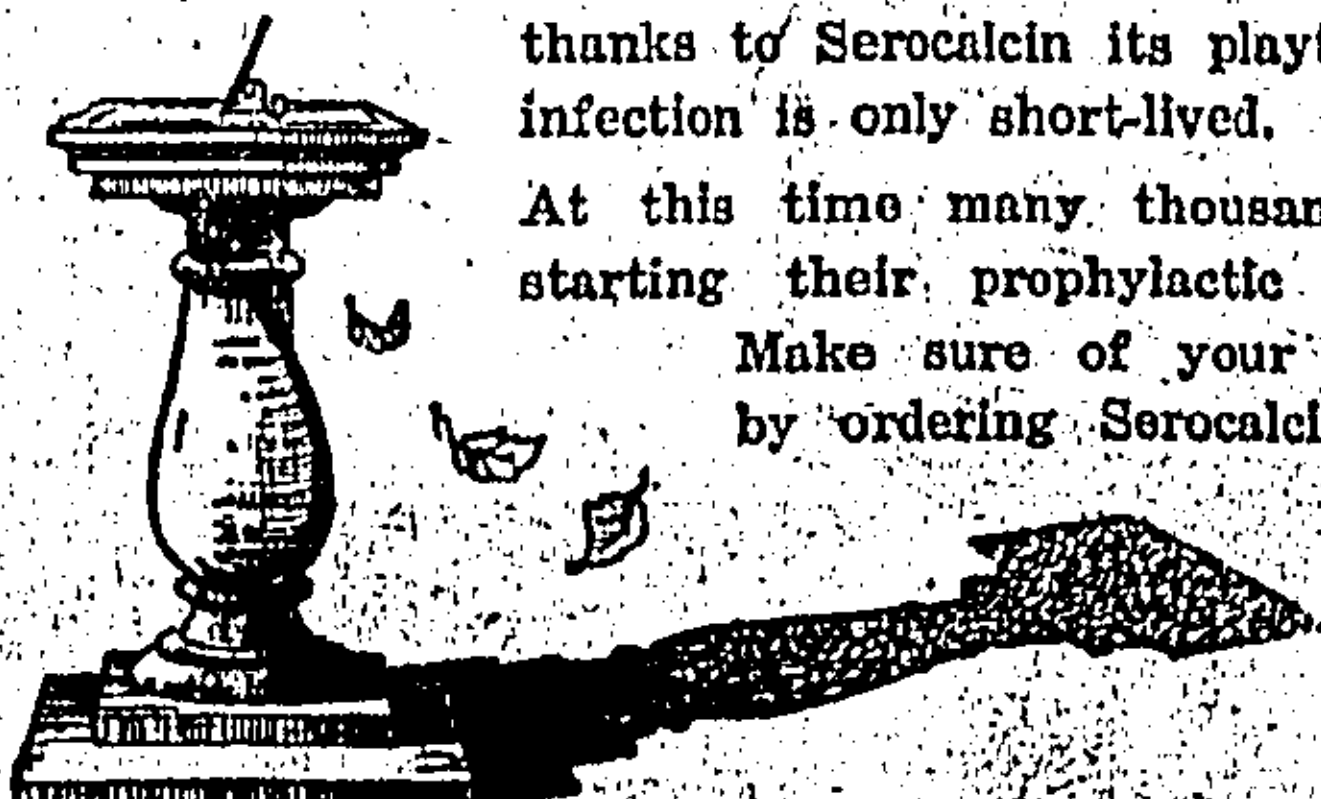
ASK YOUR KODAK DEALER.

EASTMAN KODAK COMPANY
14, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, 1ST FLOOR, TEL. 31054

As the Shadows Lengthen...

... and the chilly days of Autumn approach, the common cold comes out to play with renewed vigour—thanks to Serocalcin its playtime of infection is only short-lived.

At this time many thousands are starting their prophylactic course. Make sure of your supply by ordering Serocalcin now.



SEROCALCIN
FOR THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF COLDS
Packed in tubes of 60 tablets.

Pharmacists are reminded that the sole selling agents for Serocalcin in Hong Kong are Shewan, Tomes & Co., Ltd., Chung Yee Building, Telephone 27781/2.



ST. JOHN AMBULANCE
BRIGADE.
HONG KONG DISTRICT.
WANTED

Books, papers and magazines for distribution to service camps in the New Territories.

Please communicate with
MRS. HOLMES-BROWN,
2 Tai Hang Road.
MR. K. C. WONG,
Room 606, Bank of East Asia.

WE WILL ARRANGE
TO COLLECT

Additional collecting centres—
Hongkong Cricket Club,
South China Morning Post,
China Mail Office,
Lower Peak Tramway Office.

WEEK-END SOFTBALL

CANADIANS UP AGAINST ST. THERESA'S IN CRUCIAL GAME BY "STARDUST"

The Senior Loop pennant campaign romps into the final weeks before the advent of 1950 with a full programme slated for decision this week-end. Bill Woo's Canadians, defending champions, tangle with the up-and-coming St Theresa contingent in a crucial tussle that will have an important bearing on the prospects of both contestants. The Braves renew their grudge fight with their perennial foes, the Jaguars, but this time they play in the Senior Loop instead of the Junior Circuit where their rivalry was the highlight of many seasons.

Uncle Sam's "Salisbury Sound," the highly touted outfit of the Navy, will have still another chance to garner their first local victory when they cross bats with the Americans at noon tomorrow. In the Ladies' Circuit, the front-running Wahooks clash with the Wildcats in the second game of their annual series. The Owls whipped the Felines 8-2 in their initial encounter. A twin bill is featured this afternoon. The Rexes, who have swept their first eight games, will meet strong opposition in the Jaguars in the only Junior Division fixture this week-end. St Theresa square off against the Clovers in the nightcap.

The Canadians have now won five of their eight games but have yet to meet the top teams of the loop. Their tussle with St Theresa will be their first game against the four leading teams. The Maple Leafs will play the USS "Salisbury Sound," St Joseph's, Pandas, and the Braves in order. It is hardly probable that the Canucks can win all of their remaining games.

However, a win over St Theresa would enhance their chances for the play-offs. The Canucks have not been brilliant in their recent games in which they suffered an 8-7 setback against Chung Hwa and shot out the Cumbancheros 7-0. Bill Woo has a new short stop in Ozzie Rumbahn, who is making a late start after much ballyhoo. Rumbahn will replace Junior "Coke" Markar at short, thereby rendering Markar available for other duties.

The Canucks are an experienced ball club with several outstanding batters in catcher Herbie Quon, third sacker Sherry Dare, and outfielders Junior Markar and Barney Abbas, all currently hitting over the .300 level. They have a battery with lots of pitching savvy in Kassa Nazarin and Quon. The defensive side of the team is sound. However, the Canucks will have to concede speed on the base paths to the more youthful St Theresa nine.

STRONG BID

Looking into that often foggy crystal ball, we find St Theresa in a fairly strong position for the play-offs. After their encounter with the Canucks, the Saints will have to tangle with a series of tough customers in St Joseph's, Pandas, and the Braves before facing off with the season games against the Daredevils and the Baseballers. With their present record of five wins and two losses, St Theresa's should finish in the upper regions of the Senior Loop standings. For their crucial tilt with the Maple Leafs, the Saints will call on Jack Brown for mound duty. Brown has won two pitching starts with nary a defeat. Billy Soares, showing fine form

with the bat, sparks St Theresa's attack with lots of punch coming from short stop Ingmar Erikson and ball hawk Tito Hyndman.

This game is slated for 10:30 tomorrow morning on the Recrelo ground. The tussle should be a battle royal as both teams are at even strength and a win for either team would mean another long stride on the road to the play-offs.

The Braves will be out in full force for their encounter with the Jaguars. The feud between these two softball families has taken on the proportions of a Hatfield-McCoy vendetta. Rivalry is intense. Both clubs have played in the Junior Loop in previous seasons with the Braves always holding the upper hand.

Last season's drive to the flag resulted in both teams tying for first place with a split in their two-game series. The Braves won the opening game 3-2 and the Jaguars came back to trounce their arch foes 8-3 in the return match.

However, when the chips were down and the title was at stake, the Braves displayed their superiority by downing the Jags 4-3. The Braves have a more impressive record than their rivals. The Tribe are in second place, having won six out of seven. They have still to play St Theresa, Americans, and the Canadians and seem to be set for a play-off berth.

The Jaguars, after a slow start, are finally picking up. Their 7-6 triumph over the Pandas was achieved on sound play. Tomorrow's game will see a test of skill between Braves Manager Charlie Figueroa and Jaguar Coach

Hal Wing Lee, who have been playing ball for more than a dozen years now.

The Braves utilize the squeeze bunt to great effect but may find the Jags pulling on an infield switch which may stop their scoring. This game should be a nip-and-tuck affair.

HURLERS TANGLE

Benito Flori and Norman Schwartz, two of the Colony's leading hurlers, will face each other on the same mound when the "Salisbury Sound" and the Americans clash tomorrow noon. Flori pours his fast ball across with great velocity but his change of pace deliveries cannot be compared to the tricky offerings of Schwartz who pitches to a batter's weaknesses.

Flori struck out 11 Madcaps last week and was just two whiffs short of tying the record of 13 fan outs set up by Ernie Tuttle of the Canadian cruiser "Crescent" last season.

Schwartz is a double threat as he matches his superb hurling with equally strong slug-ging abilities. The Gobs, who were given much publicity, have failed to show the form expected of them. Their hitting has not touched the limits set by their predecessors, the "Gardiners" and the "Bogers" while their fielding has not held up for seven full stanzas.

The "Salisbury Sound" have still to play the Canadians and St Joseph's and re-play their drawn fixture with the Madcaps. Unless they show great improvement in the next few weeks, their chances of reaching the play-offs are slim.

SPARRING PARTNER?



The mother-in-law of French boxing champion Robert Charron has complained to the Paris police that Charron "is using my daughter as a punching-bag." She states that Charron has "transformed his home into a boxing ring, where my daughter is forced to play the role of sparring partner." Charron is here pictured with his wife.

(London Express Service)

St Joseph's, reigning supreme in the Senior Division, should find an easy opponent in the Cumbancheros while the Paks Sports Club should be able to dust off the lowly Baseballers. The Madcaps may find a tough match in the Overseas when they clash tomorrow afternoon. The Pandas and Chung Hwa play each other in another all-Chinese encounter.

The Wahooks and the Wildcats meet each other in a crucial tussle in the Ladies' Senior Loop. The Owls have a jinx over the Felines who have been continually defeated by their top foes. The Wahooks are currently looking ahead to their third straight championship and are well on the way to the flag with only one defeat in 4 games.

A victory over the Cats would send Owl pennant stock soaring. However, "Doc" Molthen's recent pep talk to his Wildcats resulted in the Felines crushing the Canadians 10-3. Should they show the same form tomorrow, the Owls can be assured of a good game.

REXES FACE TEST

This afternoon's double bill sees the Rexes defending their title against the Jaguars, who are third in the loop standings. The Jaguars possess better hitting than the Rexes but the Indians rate high in all-round play.

This game should be keenly contested as the Jags will be going all out to lower the Rexes' colours before next

week's Yuletide respite when the teams have a lay-off while the International Series is ushered in.

The Clovers, who are improving under the coaching of Freddie Hyndman and Cesar Coelho, will be out to avenge a 7-5 defeat at the hands of St Theresa's.

However, the possibilities of the Clovers taking the Saints do not appear to be too bright. St Theresa's have a compact team while the Clovers are still in the development stage. In any case a friendly atmosphere will prevail in this tilt.

The St Theresa softball team are having a shindig tonight to raise funds for the purchase of equipment. The dance will be held at the Club de Recrelo, commencing at 9.00 p.m.

ECHOES AND RE-ECHOES

Your scribbles is a constant advocate of sportsmanship on the field of play provided such sportsmanship does not interfere with playing the game according to the governing rules and regulations. Rough and unnecessarily robust tactics are to be deplored in all instances.

Last week a large section of the Colony's softball adherents were witnesses of an unpleasant incident in a game in which two top teams were competitors. One of the contestants was new to local softball and apparently considered that "backyard" softball is played in this Colony.

In a close play at the home plate, a base-runner of that team ran headlong into the opposing catcher who was blocking the plate when he could have slid home and avoided unnecessary conflict. As it was, a ruckus was started and tempers flared up. The prompt intervention of the team managers prevented the affair from developing into open hostility.

Such a display of rough and very unnecessary robust methods may lead to complications which may not meet with the approval of the Colony's ball fans who are, after all, the supporters of the game. It is hoped that the use of these methods of play will be curtailed as far as possible.

Mister Conquest



Filmosound

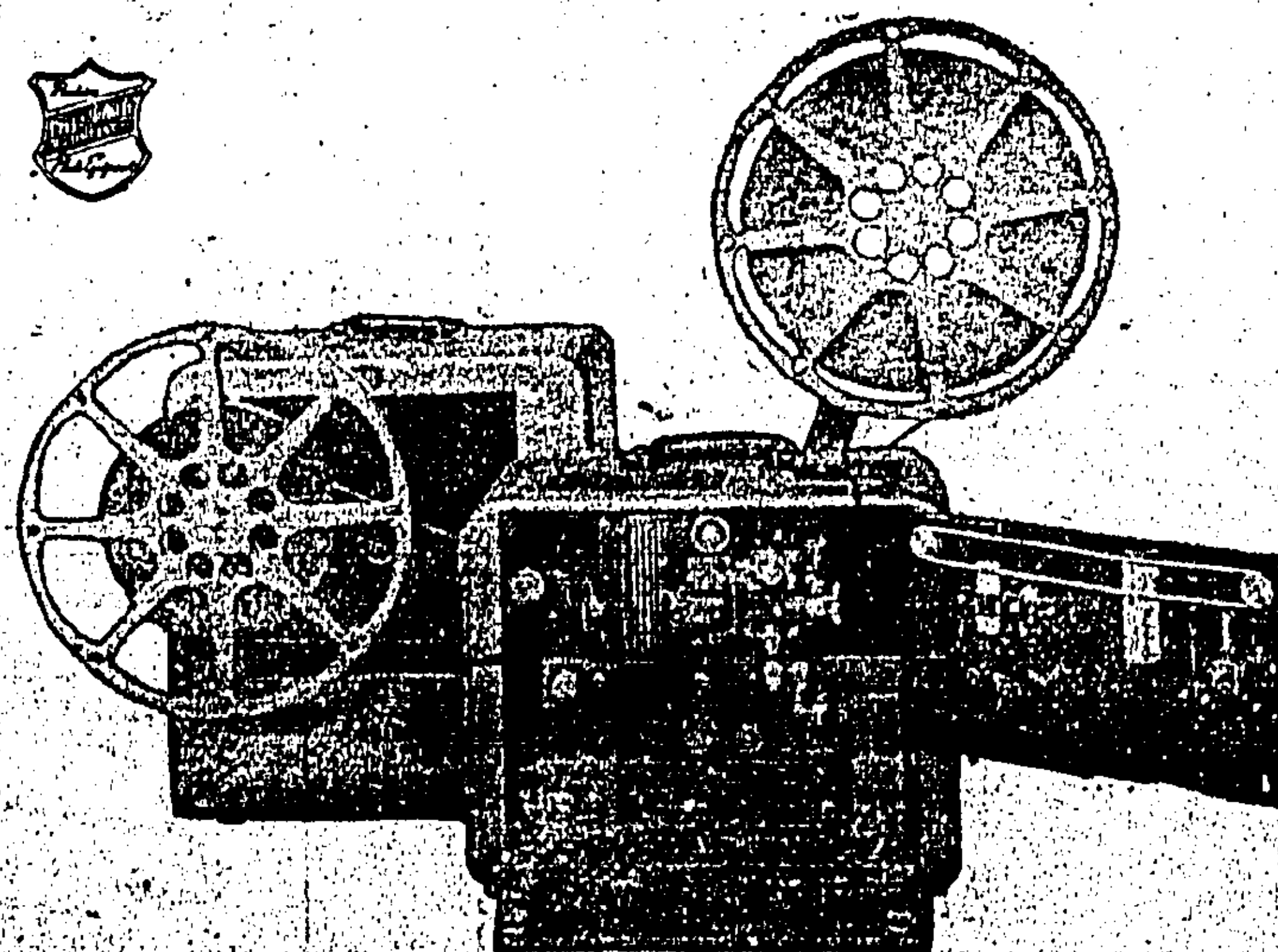
The 16mm

SOUND FILM PROJECTOR

Of Proved Superiority

Precision-Made by

BELL & HOWELL



AGENTS:

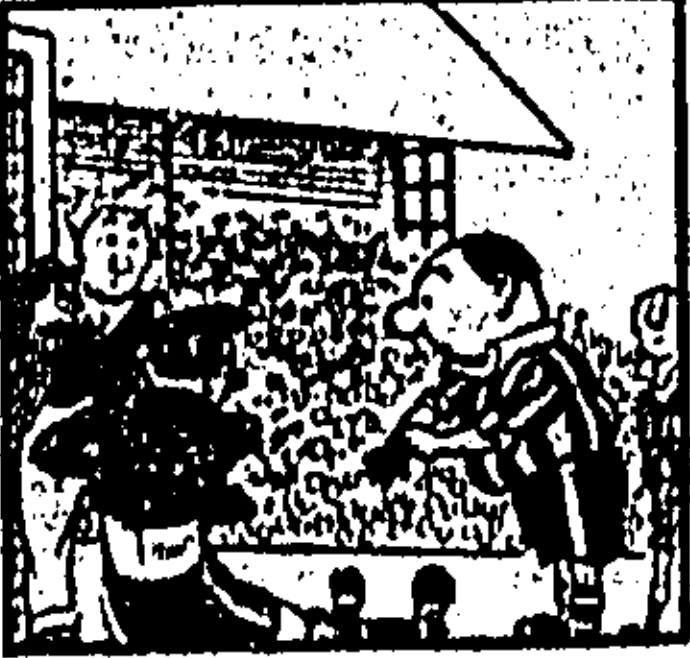
3RD FL., MARINA HOUSE

FILMO DEPOT

HONG KONG

TELEPHONE 32153

SPORTING SAM



By Reg. Watson



WEEK-END SOCCER



WEEK-END SOCCER

ARMY MAY REGRET EARLY SEASON SLIP-UPS

By "UNOMI"

Today and tomorrow Clubs resume the search for League points. A full programme of First and Second Division games is slated for this week-end. Kitchee, the potential champions in the Senior League are still undefeated and are well ahead of their nearest rivals, Kowloon Motor Bus and Army. The main interest appears to be the tussle for second place. The Army team have now managed to blend together and have been victorious in their past seven games.

What a great pity the Army slipped up badly at the start of the season and dropped valuable points which, if they had been collected, would have put them about two points behind Kitchee. However, we are still in the first half of the season and if Army keeps up their present form they will certainly be in at the kill.

Today's most promising game appears to be the meeting of St. Joseph's and Club at Happy Valley. The Saints are beginning to slide down the league table and a defeat today will just about ruin their chances of finishing in either first or second place. This game is always one of the matches which is eagerly awaited for by both players and spectators alike.

St. Joseph's are having goal-keeping trouble at the moment. Brown is not always available and Sammy Tsang has been out for some time. Their display against KMB was most unconvincing.

DOUGHTY OPPONENTS
Club, straight from their win over CAA in last week's Shield game, will prove themselves doughty opponents. The team have adopted first time hard tackling tactics and this may set the Saints whose youngsters are inclined to play a more constructive game. It should be a most interesting game to watch between two evenly matched sides.

Army should have little difficulty in scoring their eighth successive win when they visit R.A.F. at Soekunpo. The Armen, although not lacking in enthusiasm, are a poor team and I'm afraid their many weaknesses will once again be exposed.

HALF-KILLED GIANTS
The first round tie of the Challenge Shield played last week provided good fare for soccer fans. Kitchee, although having won the lion's share of the play were almost eliminated by the youthful South China team. A goal scored by Chu Wing-keung early in the first-half was the only counter of the game.

South China fought doggedly throughout the whole game against their experienced opponents. Time and again the Kitchee defence was ripped wide open by the small South China forwards but erratic shooting spoiled many of their chances of scoring.

A THRILLER
The remaining game today should be a thriller. CAA act as hosts to South China at Boundary Street. South China almost beat the strong Kitchee team last week and if the same form is maintained today they should earn at least a share of the points.

Chung Fook-lum, the South China pivot, is filling the position so well that the absence of Ko Po-cheung, the schoolboy star, is not missed. CAA can always be relied upon to provide stiff opposition to any visiting team. They have a resolute defence but require a few sharpshooters in the forward line.

SEVENTH RACE
In this last sprint race of 1/2 mile 170 yards for Class 6 ponies (3rd section), punters will have much difficulty in selecting the likely winner as nearly all of these ponies are of similar standard.

I expect that the first three ponies to pass the winning post will be Rosemarie (152 lbs) Silver Spear (143 lbs) and Radioron (147 lbs).

EIGHTH RACE
The meeting will close with the mile and 171 yards for Class 7 ponies, and this closes the 1949 racing season. Because of the bulky field and undetermined form of a number of the entries anything is liable to happen here.

However I know that Good Bay is in good form and should be able to win this race in spite of the top weight.

FIFTH RACE
The field for the Hongkong Champions will be no more than ten and all will be out at equal weights of 150 lbs. Sky-master (Mr. Tao) will certainly be the favourite and this pony, at 150 lbs, is a very good one. He is hard to beat.

Beautiful Beauty (Mr. Kwok), which has been showing up so

FOURTH RACE
In this second section race for Class 6 ponies over the 1/2 mile 170 yards the finish should be fought out between Dawn (157 lbs) and Sparkling Eye (159 lbs). These two ponies are good sprinters but Dawn will have a little advantage of a difference in weight. Iron Musk (142 lbs) will also have a chance, but this bay mare will have to be up with the two ponies all the way. Domino (153 lbs) is worth a \$3.00 each way.

THIRD RACE
Judging by the allotment of poundage the best race of the afternoon is the Legends Handicap (1st section) for Class 2 ponies over the two mile post once round and in. There are quite a few speedy merchants and a lot depends on the start.

I like Home Builder, which is down at 115 lbs. Lily (150 lbs) has a big proposition to concede over a stone to this bay gelding. I would like to consider Empress Delight (150 lbs) a chance but seeing this bay mare has jumped to Class 2 since her last win in Class 2 I'll leave the pony out of the reckoning. Strong opposition is sure to come from Jeep Shing (140 lbs), Maniac (150 lbs), and Rebel (142 lbs).

SECOND RACE
My best three for the Last Chance Handicap (1st section) for Class 6 ponies, over this spring race of 1/2 mile 170 yards are Epitard (150 lbs), Selenia (162 lbs), and Windermere (149 lbs).

Windermere, is not a nice black gelding to handle, but if it gets away with the field your money is pretty safe for a win. My dossier shows that Kwong Leung is better over a distance and it is unlikely the brown gelding will upset the appraiser. Be careful with Marber (145 lbs).

FIRST RACE
The curtain raiser will be the Final Handicap (1st section) for Class 7 ponies from the two-mile post once round and in, and it looks that all the 19 contestants will weigh out.

I fancy Pacific which is nicely weighted at 150 lbs. This brown mare ran a good second behind Sino Marshall in the Talmoshan Stakes (2nd section) on May 7 over the mile distance. Her adversary is Abner Hamid with Green Velvet in the rear. Yacal is good for an outside bet.

THE HARRIER
His temperamental foibles apart, Signor Lorenzi is a brilliant, bustling little guy. He buzzed around the Tottenham ground like a tempestuous gnat. He harassed and harried the life out of Nell Franklin and company.

As one who remarked: "England could do with some of that poison!"

The harsh truth is that this Italian played wiped the self-confident smirk off the face of British Soccer.

Coming after our complacent 3-2 massacre of a weak Ireland team, it acted on us like a punch on the nose. The only Englishman who gave me world-class form for 90 minutes was goalkeeper Bert Williams. Mr. Luck was our other outstanding player.

For the rest, our half-back line was terrible and, as I have said before, we need a captain-general to dominate this team.

TRIALS NEEDED
What happens now? Do we go off to sleep again, when we play Scotland?

We should hold trials, blood new men, above all find some ball players. We simply don't play football any more.

It is a damning reflection on our modern Soccer standards, but Hull City's Ralph Carter at 30 is still just about the best English inside playing.

Little Will Mannion, of Middlesbrough, can still make the first-time pass better than all the Pearsons and Shackletons.

Stanley Matthews at 34 can pick the ball into the goal-mouth right on to a defence. Tom Lawton—but, why go on...

One excuse I have heard is that Wednesday was an "off day." Well, we have had "off days" against Scotland, Sweden and Rire. It is developing into a habit.

Never forget, English prestige will be on show, before the world in Rio.

If we can't beat the Scots at Hampden we should stay at home rather than be rubbed the dirt by the South Americans.

LOUIS COME-BACK?
Long before Bruce Woodcock and Leo Savold step into the ring at the White City next May or June for their world heavyweight title fight, Joe Louis may make a sensational come-back.

The old boxer has been on the road every morning and in the gymnasium every afternoon. According to my American scout, he has never worked harder even in his best days.

Indeed, there are indications that Jolting Joe is flirting with the idea of just one more pay day.

If that should happen the Bomber will fight the Christmas Wars, Ernest Charles for the title and where I wonder, will that put Bruce and Leo?

(London Express Service)

Should England Retire From The World Cup?

ASKS ALAN HOBY

Let us be honest. If this is the best England's footballers can do we should retire from the World Cup—forthwith. On their Tottenham form—faltering, fumbling, feeble—this England team hasn't a cat-in-hell's chance of winning even a silver spoon in Rio de Janeiro next July.

Don't bleat that we beat the Italians in North London. If that was a "victory" it was as empty as a moron's mind.

A point that hasn't been sufficiently emphasised, I think, is that this makeshift Italian eleven, playing away from home on a heavy English pitch, can do in one second what it takes our men three seconds to accomplish.

YARDS FASTER

They have all the tricks we used to have. They can kick the ball from any angle as dead as a kipper. They can bring it down from the thigh or chest and, in a flash, flick or move it out to the man running into the open space.

They are yards faster and they go forward to meet the ball.

Yet South American observers tell me that the Italians are slower than Brazilian or Argentine teams operating on their own bone-dry ground.

Moreover, the South Americans can shoot.

Typical of the way these Italians play is their inside right, one Signor Benito Lorenzi.

In Italy they call him "Polsen" Lorenzi, because he acts like arsenic on rival defences.

THE HARRIER

His temperamental foibles apart, Signor Lorenzi is a brilliant, bustling little guy. He buzzed around the Tottenham ground like a tempestuous gnat. He harassed and harried the life out of Nell Franklin and company.

As one who remarked: "England could do with some of that poison!"

The harsh truth is that this Italian played wiped the self-confident smirk off the face of British Soccer.

Coming after our complacent 3-2 massacre of a weak Ireland team, it acted on us like a punch on the nose.

The only Englishman who gave me world-class form for 90 minutes was goalkeeper Bert Williams. Mr. Luck was our other outstanding player.

For the rest, our half-back line was terrible and, as I have said before, we need a captain-general to dominate this team.

TRIALS NEEDED

What happens now? Do we go off to sleep again, when we play Scotland?

We should hold trials, blood new men, above all find some ball players. We simply don't play football any more.

It is a damning reflection on our modern Soccer standards, but Hull City's Ralph Carter at 30 is still just about the best English inside playing.

Little Will Mannion, of Middlesbrough, can still make the first-time pass better than all the Pearsons and Shackletons.

Stanley Matthews at 34 can pick the ball into the goal-mouth right on to a defence. Tom Lawton—but, why go on...

One excuse I have heard is that Wednesday was an "off day." Well, we have had "off days" against Scotland, Sweden and Rire. It is developing into a habit.

Never forget, English prestige will be on show, before the world in Rio.

If we can't beat the Scots at Hampden we should stay at home rather than be rubbed the dirt by the South Americans.

LOUIS COME-BACK?
Long before Bruce Woodcock and Leo Savold step into the ring at the White City next May or June for their world heavyweight title fight, Joe Louis may make a sensational come-back.

The old boxer has been on the road every morning and in the gymnasium every afternoon. According to my American scout, he has never worked harder even in his best days.

Indeed, there are indications that Jolting Joe is flirting with the idea of just one more pay day.

If that should happen the Bomber will fight the Christmas Wars, Ernest Charles for the title and where I wonder, will that put Bruce and Leo?

(London Express Service)

Today's Chances At The Valley

By "THE TURF"

Outstanding event of the Twelfth Race Meeting, the last of the 1949 racing season, to be held at the Valley this afternoon, is the Hongkong Autumn Champions for Australian ponies of any season over the mile and a quarter.

In a programme of eight races, three are over short distances the results of which will depend to a great extent on the start. I would recommend a careful study of the draw for positions as it is obvious that getting off to a good start in races of this kind is a matter of paramount importance.

The 1949 Champion Jockey will be decided this afternoon between Mr. J. Pote-Hunt, Mr. H. Maitland and Mr. K. Kwok. Here is how they now stand: Mr. J. Pote-Hunt 23 wins, Mr. H. Maitland 22 wins, Mr. K. Kwok 22 wins. Racegoers are reminded that the first saddling will be at 1.30 p.m. with the first race at 2 p.m. sharp. Here is how I see this afternoon's chances:

FIRST RACE

The curtain raiser will be the Final Handicap (1st section) for Class 7 ponies from the two-mile post once round and in, and it looks that all the 19 contestants will weigh out.

I fancy Pacific which is nicely weighted at 150 lbs. This brown mare ran a good second behind Sino Marshall in the Talmoshan Stakes (2nd section) on May 7 over the mile distance. Her adversary is Abner Hamid with Green Velvet in the rear. Yacal is good for an outside bet.

SECOND RACE

My best three for the Last Chance Handicap (1st section) for Class 6 ponies, over this spring race of 1/2 mile 170 yards are Epitard (150 lbs), Selenia (162 lbs), and Windermere (149 lbs).

Windermere, is not a nice black gelding to handle, but if it gets away with the field your money is pretty safe for a win. My dossier shows that Kwong Leung is better over a distance and it is unlikely the brown gelding will upset the appraiser. Be careful with Marber (145 lbs).

THIRD RACE

Judging by the allotment of poundage the best race of the afternoon is the Legends Handicap (1st section) for Class 2 ponies over the two mile post once round and in. There are quite a few speedy merchants and a lot depends on the start.

I like Home Builder, which is down at 115 lbs. Lily (150 lbs) has a big proposition to concede over a stone to this bay gelding. I would like to consider Empress Delight (150 lbs) a chance but seeing this bay mare has jumped to Class 2 since her last win in Class 2 I'll leave the pony out of the reckoning. Strong opposition is sure to come from Jeep Shing (140 lbs), Maniac (150 lbs), and Rebel (142 lbs).

FOURTH RACE

In this second section race for Class 6 ponies over the 1/2 mile 170 yards the finish should be fought out between Dawn (157 lbs) and Sparkling Eye (159 lbs). These two ponies are good sprinters but Dawn will have a little advantage of a difference in weight. Iron Musk (142 lbs) will also have a chance, but this bay mare will have to be up with the two ponies all the way. Domino (153 lbs) is worth a \$3.00 each way.

FIFTH RACE

The field for the Hongkong Champions will be no more than ten and all will be out at equal weights of 150 lbs. Sky-master (Mr. Tao) will certainly be the favourite and this pony, at 150 lbs, is a very good one. He is hard to beat.

Beautiful Beauty (Mr. Kwok), which has been showing up so

well lately, will have to produce her best form to beat Sky-master.

Mr. Pote-Hunt, will have the choice of either Arabian Dagger or High Speed and whichever one he brings out will have a say in this main event.

The rest of the field are Blue Sky (Mr. Holgate), Fort Knox (Mr. Maitland), Golden Dragon (Mr. Wong Yan), Jeep Hoo (Mr. Noodt), Panda (Mr. K. F. Chiu) and Pleasant Valley.

SIXTH RACE
I can't predict a leap in the dark but my choice for this race for Class 2 ponies (2nd section) is World Peace. I understand that the pony will be piloted by Mr. Maitland, and I think can be relied on to win this event though now it is running in a higher class.

SEVENTH RACE
In this last sprint race of 1/2 mile 170 yards for Class 6 ponies (3rd section), punters will have much difficulty in selecting the likely winner as nearly all of these ponies are of similar standard.

I expect that the first three ponies to pass the winning post will be Rosemarie (152 lbs) Silver Spear (143 lbs) and Radioron (147 lbs).

Reuter, at only 135 lbs, is well worth watching for this mare was first at the 4th Race Meeting over the six furlongs carrying 147 lbs, whereas now it has an advantage of 12 lbs less.

EIGHTH RACE
The meeting will close with the mile and 171 yards for Class 7 ponies, and this closes the 1949 racing season. Because of the bulky field and undetermined form of a number of the entries anything is liable to happen here.

However I know that Good Bay is in good form and should be able to win this race in spite of the top weight.

Alfred (151 lbs) is fit too and must be given some kind of a chance in this company.

Elmer (152 lbs) and Strathnamara (150 lbs) are coming back to form and the "real" danger lies: Al Fraser (138 lbs) and Good News (139 lbs) are not to be overlooked for they are sure to be well up at the finish.

Argentina Offers

£36,000 In Turf Prizes

Stakes which make our richest turf prizes look meagre are on offer to English owners from the Argentine. A £36,000 international race is the bait.

The race, the "Gran Premio Carlos Pellegrini," to be run next November, is over 3,000 metres—getting on for two miles, to be accurate, one mile 1621 yards. Buenos Aires Jockey Club will pay shipping expenses.

The race will be on weight-for-age terms, and horses, to become well-acclimatised, would need to go over in the spring—a blow this, for they would miss the English season.

£25,000 FOR WINNER
Here is the tempting offer. The winner will receive £25,000 second £8,000, third £3,000, fourth £1,250, and fifth £750. There will be a consolation plate of not less than £3,000 for unsuccessful foreign horses.

One English horse at least will compete—Swallow. This, recently bought by the Argentine for this very race.

Here are comparisons. Richest ever race was this year's Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe at Longchamp, £27,000. Richest ever in this country was the 1948 St. Leger, totalled more than £19,000, of which the winner's share was £15,200.

But though no individual race in this country can compare with the dazzling prize dangled by the Argentine, probably no whole meeting in the world compares with Royal Ascot, at which, over the four days, no race has less than £1,000 added to the sweep money and the Gold Cup has £10,000 added.

(London Express Service)

DEBUT
News Vendors marked their debut against a First Division Club with a clear six goal victory over R.A.F. The fast and accurate passing of the Chinese upset the slow and awkward defence as usual the R.A.F. defence was in fine form but they were much overworked and were finally overrun by their speedier opponents. The result in no way flattered the victors.

Extra time had to be played in the match between Club and R.A.F. during which Club rattled on three more goals and thus merited entry into the next round of the Shield. The game was fast and exciting although somewhat marred by rough play by players of both teams.

Widger, the Club inside-right, had his shooting boots on and scored three goals. The presence of Mullin in the Club team helped to instil confidence in the rest of the players and the whole team earned their fine victory, although it was a hard-fought game.

The Junior Shield game between Kitchee and South China was a thriller throughout. The final score, after extra time had been played, was 1-1. The replay will be worth going a long way to see.

EASY PASSAGE
Army had a nice easy passage into round two, giving Kwong Wah an object lesson in football to the tune of 6-0. Several new players were on view in the Army team, each one acquiring himself well, which gives an indication of the unlimited talent at the Army selectors' disposal.

HALF-KILLED GIANTS
The first round tie of the Challenge Shield played last week provided good fare for soccer fans. Kitchee, although having won the lion's share of the play were almost eliminated by the youthful South China team. A goal scored by Chu Wing-keung early in the first-half was the only counter of the game.

South China fought doggedly throughout the whole game against their experienced opponents. Time and again the Kitchee defence was ripped wide open by the small South China forwards but erratic shooting spoiled many of their chances of scoring.

Usually a team makes a little more effort to win a cup tie and this was a glaring example of this happening. Undaunted by Kitchee's grand record the boys from Chung Wah went all out to win and almost succeeded. They were beaten but not disgraced.

Commandos, disappointed their supporters by their poor showing against Kowloon Motor Bus. Highton reappeared at Chung Wah but he was snuffed out of the game by Kwong Wah, the Bus pivot.

The Commando team were much too slow and were no match for their clever opponents.

Highton once again had the misfortune to meet with an injury. He is the unluckiest player in local football. Special mention must be made of the excellent display of goalkeeping by the Commando keeper, Locker. He was in grand form, some of his saves bordering on the miraculous. He is by far the best keeper in the Colony at the present moment.

THE HARRIER
His temperamental foibles apart, Signor Lorenzi is a brilliant, bustling little guy. He buzzed around the Tottenham ground like a tempestuous gnat. He harassed and harried the life out of Nell Franklin and company.

As one who remarked: "England could do with some of that poison!"

The harsh truth is that this Italian played wiped the self-confident smirk off the face of British Soccer.

Coming after our complacent 3-2 massacre of a weak Ireland team, it acted on us like a punch on the nose.

The only Englishman who gave me world-class form for 90 minutes was goalkeeper Bert Williams. Mr. Luck was our other outstanding player.

For the rest, our half-back line was terrible and, as I have said before, we need a captain-general to dominate this team.

It is a damning reflection on our modern Soccer standards, but Hull City's Ralph Carter at 30 is still just about the best English inside playing.

Little Will Mannion, of Middlesbrough, can still make the first-time pass better than all the Pearsons and Shackletons.

Stanley Matthews at 34 can pick the ball into the goal-mouth right on to a defence. Tom Lawton—but, why go on...

One excuse I have heard is that Wednesday was an "off day." Well, we have had "off days" against Scotland, Sweden and Rire. It is developing into a habit.

Never forget, English prestige will be on show, before the world in Rio.

If we can't beat the Scots at Hampden we should stay at home rather than be rubbed the dirt by the South Americans.

LOUIS COME-BACK?
Long before Bruce Woodcock and Leo Savold step into the ring at the White City next May or June for their world heavyweight title fight, Joe Louis may make a sensational come-back.

The old boxer has been on the road every morning and in the gymnasium every afternoon. According to my American scout, he has never worked harder even in his best days.

Indeed, there are indications that Jolting Joe is flirting with the idea of just one more pay day.

If that should happen the Bomber will fight the Christmas Wars, Ernest Charles for the title and where I wonder, will that put Bruce and Leo?

(London Express Service)

DEBUT
News Vendors marked their debut against a First Division Club with a clear six goal victory over R.A.F. The fast and accurate passing of the Chinese upset the slow and awkward defence as usual the R.A.F. defence was in fine form but they were much overworked and were finally overrun by their speedier opponents. The result in no way flattered the victors.

Extra time had to be played in the match between Club and R.A.F. during which Club rattled on three more goals and thus merited entry into the next round of the Shield. The game was fast and exciting although somewhat marred by rough play by players of both teams.

Widger, the Club inside-right, had his shooting boots on and scored three goals. The presence of Mullin in the Club team helped to instil confidence in the rest of the players and the whole team earned their fine victory, although it was a hard-fought game.

The Junior Shield game between Kitchee and South China was a thriller throughout. The final score, after extra time had been played, was 1-1. The replay will be worth going a long way to see.

EASY PASSAGE
Army had a nice easy passage into round two, giving Kwong Wah an object lesson in football to the tune of 6-0. Several new players were on view in the Army team, each one acquiring himself well, which gives an indication of the unlimited talent at the Army selectors' disposal.

HALF-KILLED GIANTS
The first round tie of the Challenge Shield played last week provided good fare for soccer fans. Kitchee, although having won the lion's share of the play were almost eliminated by the youthful South China team. A goal scored by Chu Wing-keung early in the first-half was the only counter of the game.

South China fought doggedly throughout the whole game against their experienced opponents. Time and again the Kitchee defence was ripped wide open by the small South China forwards but erratic shooting spoiled many of their chances of scoring.

Usually a team makes a little more effort to win a cup tie and this was a glaring example of this happening. Undaunted by Kitchee's grand record the boys from Chung Wah went all out to win and almost succeeded. They were beaten but not disgraced.

Commandos, disappointed their supporters by their poor showing against Kowloon Motor Bus. Highton reappeared at Chung Wah but he was snuffed out of the game by Kwong Wah, the Bus pivot.

The Commando team were much too slow and were no match for their clever opponents.

Highton once again had the misfortune to meet with an injury. He is the unluckiest player in local football. Special mention must be made of the excellent display of goalkeeping by the Commando keeper, Locker. He was in grand form, some of his saves bordering on the miraculous. He is by far the best keeper in the Colony at the present moment.

DEAD ON YOUR FEET?



Come to life in our Walk-Overs with the built-in Main Spring Arch. Excellent arch support cushioned in live rubber.

THE SHUI HING Co., Ltd.

Department Stores 187-195 Des Voeux Rd., C.

WALK-OVER
Main Spring Arch

THE SHUI HING Co., Ltd.

Department Stores 187-195 Des Voeux Rd., C.

EXECUTORS and TRUSTEES for the COLONY and the FAR EAST

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANK

HONGKONG (TRUSTEE) LTD.

the Trustee Company of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Hongkong.

EXECUTORS and TRUSTEES for the COLONY and the FAR EAST

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANK

HONGKONG (TRUSTEE) LTD.

the Trustee Company of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Hongkong.

EXECUTORS and TRUSTEES for the COLONY and the FAR EAST

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANK

Tourists Knock Up 245 For Seven At Bombay

Bombay, Dec. 16.—The Commonwealth cricket tourists took first innings after winning the toss in the second unofficial Test cricket match against India here today and scored 245 runs for the loss of seven wickets before stumps were drawn for the day.

WEEK-END SPORT

TODAY

Cricket—First Division League: Army v. Recreio at Sookunpo; Optimists v. RAF at Chater Road; IRC v. University at Sookunpo; Chatterdown v. KCC at Happy Valley.

Second Division: Recreio v. Royal Navy at King's Park; KCC v. IRC at Cox's Road.

Friendly: Diocesan Boys' School v. Dockyard RC at Hounston.

Football—First Division League: RAF v. Army at Sookunpo; Chinese v. Athletic v. South at Boundary Street; St. Joseph's v. Club at Happy Valley; Eastern v. Commandos at Caroline Hill (Kick-off at 4 p.m.).

Second Division: Dockyard v. Army at Sookunpo; Police v. Navy at Boundary Street; Eastern v. Eastern at Caroline Hill; PCA v. St. Joseph's at Happy Valley (Kick-off at 2.30 p.m.).

Hockey—RASC v. Chant Tara at Sookunpo, 3.30 p.m.

Races—12th Extra Race Meeting at Happy Valley First Saddling Hill at 1.30 p.m.

Rugby—Rugby Cup Tournament Matches: Army v. Commandos at Causeway Bay, 3 p.m.; Navy v. Police at Causeway Bay, 4.15 p.m.; RAF v. Club at Kai Tak, 4.30 p.m.; Friendly Club v. 27th AA Heavy Regiment at Kai Tak, 5 p.m.

Softball—League Games at CBA Ground, King's Park: Rexes v. Jaguars, 2.15 p.m.; St. Theresa's v. Clovers, 3.45 p.m.

TOMORROW

Cricket—Wayfooting v. Eved at Chater Road, 11 a.m.; KCC v. 40th Division, 1.45 p.m.; Combined Provost v. AMGDW, 1.45 p.m.; Pressmist v. Dockyard RC, 1.45 p.m.

Football—First Division League: Kitchie v. Kwong Wah at Happy Valley; Navy v. KMB at Causeway Bay (Kick-off at 4 p.m.).

Second Division: Kitchie v. South China at Happy Valley; Club v. Navy at Causeway Bay; RN Yard Police v. RAF at Happy Valley; University v. Chinese Athletic at Caroline Hill (Kick-off at 2.30 p.m.); Solicitors v. News Vendors at Caroline Hill (Kick-off at 4 p.m.).

Hockey—Association Matches: Police v. Army at Boundary Street, 11.15 a.m.; RAF v. YMCA at Kai Tak, 10.30 a.m.; HKHC v. Recreio at King's Park, 10 a.m.; Nomads v. Pak SC at King's Park, 10 a.m.; Dutch HC v. Commandos at Sookunpo, 10 a.m.; Recreio "A" v. Navy at King's Park, 10 a.m.; University v. KITC at Pokfulam, 10.30 a.m.

Lawn Bowls—KCC Seeded Wapitiashaw, 2.30 p.m.

Softball—League Matches at King's Park: At CBA Ground: HKHC v. Recreio, 10.30 a.m.; Cumbechev v. St. Joseph's, Noon; Wahos v. Wildcats, 1.30 p.m.; Jaguars v. Braves, 3 p.m.

At Recreio Ground: Canadians v. St. Theresa's, 10.30 a.m.; USS "Salisbury Sound" v. Americans, Noon; Pandas v. Chung Hwa, 3 p.m.

US Ski Stars Face Tough Competition

Vancouver, Dec. 16.—In downhill and slalom racing foreigners, and especially Henry Creiller, of France, are expected to give the Americans their toughest competition in skiing this season, according to Mrs. Gretchen Fraser, a 1948 Olympic champion for the women's slalom.

Other men named as likely to give stiff opposition to the Americans are George Panisset and James Coulter, of France, Selo of Italy and the brother, Stein and Marius Erikson, of Norway, apart from a number of sportsmen from Switzerland and Austria.

Mrs. Fraser, who will not be participating in competitive skiing this year, said that she thought the Americans could write off cross-country skiing to the Swedes and the jumping would probably be dominated by the Norwegians.

She thought that Andrea Mead would succeed her as the best of America's women, but that Erika Mahring, of Austria, would test Andrea Mead—Reuter.

Two wickets fell at 18 runs but then Frank Worrell, the West Indies player, and Norman Oldfield, of Northamptonshire, came together in a third wicket stand of 188.

Worrell went just before tea for 78, and Oldfield just afterwards for 110, when a partial collapse set in and the Commonwealth, once 211 for three, ended only 34 runs while losing their next four wickets.

Phadkar, three for 49 in 22 overs, and Modi, three for 37 in 13 overs, took the day's bowling honours.

WEATHER IDEAL

L. Livingston, the captain of the Commonwealth side, won the toss and decided to bat. The weather was ideal and the wicket perfect. By lunch the Commonwealth had scored 92 for the loss of two wickets. Oldfield and Place made a bright start against the speed attack of Phadkar and Rangachari, scoring 21 runs in the first seven minutes. The rate slowed down when Modi relieved Rangachari.

A crowd of 40,000 was present at the Brabourne Stadium, where the match is being played when Modi in his third over, had Place together with 10 runs on the board.

Two balls later, he began bowled the new batsman, Ian Bell, without an addition to the score.

Oldfield and Worrell, after scoring 74 runs in 80 minutes, were still together when lunch was taken.

After the resumption they continued their third wicket partnership and some free hitting carried the stand past the 100. They had put on 188 and the tea interval was near at hand when Worrell was stumped for 78, with Oldfield now past his century. One run later tea was taken with the total 207 runs for three and Oldfield not out 109.

Oldfield and Worrell had sent up the hundred in 134 minutes, Oldfield completing his 50 in 27 minutes while Worrell took 11 minutes for his. They had six and seven fours respectively to that time and their stand became worth 100 in 108 minutes.

With stylish late cuts and pulls Oldfield reached his 100 in 223 minutes, having then hit 12 fours.

It was seven minutes before tea that Worrell, attempting a pull drive off Umrigar, lost his balance, missed the ball and fell out of his crease for Modi, who was standing well back, to throw the ball at the stumps before Worrell could scramble back.

The whole outlook of the game changed after tea. In 54 minutes four wickets fell for only 34 runs. Phadkar bowled Oldfield for 110.

Then bowling faster than his normal pace, he deceived Alley in the slips and then Ray Smith, after being dropped by the wicketkeeper off Phadkar, cocked one up for Modi to make a catch at short leg, where Phadkar had specially placed Modi.

Frederick and Pettiford then played out the time with seven wickets down for 245—Reuter.

Police Guard Rita's Clinic

Lausanne, Dec. 16.—A police guard was posted today outside the clinic where Princess Aly Khan, the screen actress Rita Hayworth, is expected to give birth to her baby soon.

The Princess herself is still at the Palace Hotel here. The expected date of the birth is still being kept secret but Professor Rodolphe Roehat, who is attending her, announced yesterday that it was "imminent."

The Lausanne police department said today that the Princess had asked for a police guard for his clinic to prevent the patients being disturbed by reporters.

Rita's daughter, Rebecca, was born by caesarian section five years ago tomorrow.

Prince Aly told correspondents a month ago that Rita hopes eventually to resume her Hollywood career. But no definite plans would be made the Prince said, until after the baby was born—Associated Press.

BOOKIES' ODDS ON SOCCER

1st Division Club Favoured For Cup

London, Dec. 16.—The sequence of 12 successive wins by First Division clubs in the English Football Association Cup competition will be continued this season if bookmakers' quotations are any guide.

The top quoted Second Division club, Tottenham Hotspur, are only 11th in the list at 20 to 1 in spite of possessing the best League record in the country.

The Spurs, who reached the semi-final of the competition two seasons ago, have won 17 of their 20 League matches this season and only once have they been beaten.

Four of their forwards have each scored 10 or more goals. Manchester United are clear-cut favourites at 8 to 1 to repeat their Cup victory of 1948. Liverpool, who have set a League record in the number of goals scored, are on the 10 to 1 mark together with the League champions, Portsmouth, Arsenal and Wolverhampton Wanderers, the winners last season.

Blackpool are 11 to 1, one point less than Sunderland, who made United are quoted at 14 to 1 with Derby County, Cup winners in 1946, at 16 to 1, and Burnley, beaten finalists the following year, on the 18 to 1 mark.

At the other end of the list is the little non-League club, Weymouth, drawn against Manchester United in the third round. Weymouth are quoted at 30 to 1 against winning the Cup, but the chances of their pulling off such a feat are more remote than even these huge odds suggest—Reuter.

Mao Tse-Tung In Moscow

(Continued from Page 1)

of Lenin and Stalin, the Soviet Government was the first to announce the unequal treaties with China which existed during the Tzarist regime.

REPEATED AID

Mao continued: "For many years, the Soviet people and the Soviet Government have repeatedly given aid to the cause of the liberation of the Chinese people. These acts of friendship on the part of the Soviet Government, which the Chinese people received during the days of their severe trials, will never be forgotten. At the present time, the most important tasks are the strengthening of the front of peace throughout the world, headed by the Soviet Union's struggle against the warmongers; and the strengthening of good neighbourly relations between the two great states of China and the Soviet Union, in particular, thanks to the correct international policy of Generalissimo Stalin, I am confident that these tasks will be fulfilled to the fullest extent and with the best results. Long live the friendship and co-operation between China and the Soviet Union!"—United Press.

"Thanks to the victory of the people's revolution in China and the formation of the Chinese People's Republic, thanks to the joint efforts of the Chinese people, the people's democracy and the peace-loving peoples of the whole world, thanks to the common striving for close co-operation between the two great powers of China and the Soviet Union, in particular, thanks to the correct international policy of Generalissimo Stalin, I am confident that these tasks will be fulfilled to the fullest extent and with the best results. Long live the friendship and co-operation between China and the Soviet Union!"—United Press.

KITC HOCKEY TEAM PICKED

The following will represent the KITC in their hockey fixture against the University at Pokfulam, at 10.30 a.m. tomorrow.

Goal: Singh; J.S. Dillon; F. Webb; Sub: Dilwan Singh; M.H. Hargreaves; Sub: Bhag Singh; U.S. Dillon; Nuegel; Ebrahim; F.X. Pinto; S. Nino and L. Gullerres.

Reserve: Rattan Singh and Mickey Ram.

All players are asked to assemble at the Vehicular Ferry Wharf (H.V.F.), Hongkong, at 9.45 a.m., and those who are unable to play are asked to inform U.S. Dillon, Tel. 58090 or 58070 Ext. 31.

Beauty Treatment



All done up in curl papers is the Yorkshire terrier Corinium Rosemary at a recent open terrier show at Hammersmith, London.

Danny O'Sullivan May Win World Title For Britain

London, Dec. 16.—While Danny O'Sullivan's win against Teddy Gardner to become the new British bantamweight champion was not so convincing as many fans would have liked, there is a strong impression that he may bring another world title to Britain.

The world light-heavyweight crown is, of course, held by Freddie Mills, and in February O'Sullivan will oppose Manuel Ortiz for the Mexican's world bantamweight title.

O'Sullivan, a London Irishman, is not to engage in any serious contests before he faces Ortiz at Harringway.

The promoter, Mr. Jack Solomon, is now tying up the loose ends of this world championship fight, while everything in connection with the fight may be said to be "on." Mr. Solomon, like those people who will support the programme, is keen to know when Ortiz will come to England and start his preparation.

The British champion will start his training as soon as the Christmas holidays are over and his manager, Benny Huntman, has called a halt in the plans to match O'Sullivan with Spain's Luis Romero for the European title held by the Spaniard.

RISK OF INJURY

Stating that world title fights do not come along every day and that O'Sullivan should not face the risk of injury before his February engagement with Ortiz, Huntman decided that his charge should confine his appearances to exhibitions rather than serious fights.

Perhaps Romero will not mind such a postponement, but should O'Sullivan beat Ortiz and so become the world champion, the Spaniard would, no doubt, be anxious to accommodate the British boxer with Romero's European and O'Sullivan's world titles at stake.

Meanwhile the claims of other men should not be entirely ignored. Jack Patterson, former world flyweight champion, for example, is now boxing in South Africa and a good showing against Vic Towel, holder of the South African and Empire bantamweight titles, would put him in line for a crack at any honours.

He will, no doubt, be out with challenges to O'Sullivan if he returns with a win over Towel to his credit, or he may bid for Towel's Empire title. This division, throughout the world, is certainly in a very interesting state at the present time—Reuter.

FAR EAST TOUR

Doncaster, Dec. 16.—The British lightweight boxing champion, Billy Thompson, of Doncaster, who is due to fly to Singapore on February 17 for a

Kostov Executed

Sofia, Dec. 16.—Trilecho Kostov, former Bulgarian Deputy Premier, sentenced to death for spy work, was executed today, the Bulgarian news agency announced.

Today, the Presidium of the Bulgarian Grand National Assembly rejected Kostov's plea for mercy. It found that there were no extenuating grounds for reducing the sentence—Reuter.

Former SS Men, Gestapo Attend Secret Meeting

Munich, Dec. 16.—Seventy former Nazi SS officers, Gestapo agents and members of the SO (Gestapo Security Service), attended a secret meeting of the extreme Nationalist Fatherland Union here last night, the local Press reported tonight with banner headlines.

The meeting took place in a restaurant and only those with special invitation cards were allowed to enter the building.

A usually reliable source told Reuter that reporters who managed to get into the restaurant were thrown out.

Herr Karl Freitenhansel, leader of the Fatherland Union, was reported by this source to have said at the meeting: "Down with the anti-Nazi traitors who have sold out to the Allies."

NOT ASHAMED

Speaking on the question of German war guilt, he was reported to have said that the German people have nothing to be ashamed of.

Herr Freitenhansel specifically accused the Bavarian Social Democrat leader, Dr. Walde-mar Von Koenigern, of being a traitor and having been a major in the British Secret Service, the source said.

Dr. Von Koenigern was, therefore, responsible for the death of thousands of German soldiers, he alleged.

Herr Freitenhansel announced, the source said, that he would hold three or four public meetings in January and this time no one would break them up. This was a reference to two meetings organised by the Fatherland Union in Munich and in Bremen in October and November which were broken up by Social Democrats, Communists and anti-Nazis.

After the last Munich meeting, Herr Freitenhansel told the Press that he would form a special squad of anti-Communist Ukrainians now living in Germany.

One speaker at yesterday's secret meeting, whose name was given as Schaeffer, was reported to have been applauded when he boasted of

having killed a French occupation soldier and had been sentenced in his absence to 15 years' imprisonment.

The report of the meeting by this source was similar to those which appeared in the local newspapers. The Abend Zeitung headlined its version Secret Meeting of the SS with Freitenhansel.

The United States Commissioner for Bavaria, Mr. Clarence D. Bolds, announced that he was conducting a full investigation into the reported meeting and would announce his findings later—Reuter.

CHURCH NOTICES

KOWLOON UNION CHURCH (Baptist, Congregational, Presbyterian)

SUNDAY
9.45 a.m. Sunday School, Young Peoples Group.
11.00 a.m. Service, Rev. A. E. Small.
7.00 p.m. Nativity Play, Children of the Sunday School.
8.00 p.m. Social hour.
TUESDAY
10.00 a.m. Women's Guild.
9.00 p.m. Choir Practice.

ENGLISH METHODIST CHURCH (Queen's Rd. East, Corner of Kennedy Road)

Sunday, Dec. 18
11.00 a.m. Preacher, Rev. L. M. McCoy.
6.30 p.m. Special Christmas Service of Lessons and Carols, conducted by Rev. M. Collins.
8.00 p.m. Social hour in the Hall and Soldiers Home.
All Servicemen Invited.
Tuesday, Dec. 20
9.15 p.m. "Peace for all" Programme in the S. and S. Home. Special Christmas features.

ORIENTAL AIR CONDITIONED

Take Any Eastern Tram Car or Happy Valley Bus

SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30—5.15—7.20 & 9.30 P.M.



IT'S YUNG HWA'S MIGHTY DRAMA OF THE SEA!

SPECIAL MORNING SHOW TO-MORROW AT 12.30

"Another New Programme Of Technicolor Cartoons"



CHRISTMAS SALE

10-30%

OFF ALL CARPETS

CARPET INDUSTRIES

63, Austin Road, Kowloon.

HONGKONG TELEGRAPH

1-3 Wyndham Street, Hongkong

Published daily (afternoon).
Price, 20 cents per edition.
Subscription: \$4.00 per month.
Postage: China and Macao, \$1.50 per month; UK British Possessions and other countries, \$4.50 per month.

News contributions, always welcome, should be addressed to the Editor, business communications and advertisements to the General Manager.
Telephones: 26015, 26016, 26017.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

20 WORDS \$3.00

for 1 DAY—PREPAID

ADDITIONAL INSERTIONS

\$1.50 PER DAY.

10 cents PER WORD OVER 20

Births, Deaths, Marriages, Personal \$5.00 per insertion not exceeding 25 words. 25 cents each additional word.

ALTERNATE INSERTIONS

10% EXTRA

IF NOT PREPAID A BOOKING FEE OF 50 cents IS CHARGED.

Names and addresses should accompany advertisements not necessarily for publication, but to ensure that replies are received by the person for whom they are intended.

We will forward replies to the stated address if the advertiser desires.

All advertisers purporting to loan money must publish their names and addresses in the advertisements.

If the wants of advertisers are quickly met and they do not desire any further replies forwarded, we shall be glad to be notified promptly to that effect when a suitable acknowledgment will be inserted free of charge.

FOUND

FOUNTAIN Pen on counter of South China Morning Post. Apply Secretary, S. C. M. Post.

FOR SALE

WEIGHTS AND MEASUREMENTS of cargo exported from Hongkong and South China compiled by the Surveyors, \$15 from the South China Morning Post.

H.K. Government Import and Export License Applications, \$15 from the South China Morning Post.

ON SALE "Food and Flowers" No. 2 by Dr. G. A. C. Harkiss. Over thirty illustrations of local flowers and fruits. Price six dollars. Obtainable at "S. C. M. Post."

CLASSIFIED

ADVERTISEMENTS

MAY BE BOOKED AT THE EVERGREEN STORE, CORNER OF NATHAN AND JORDAN ROADS, KOWLOON.

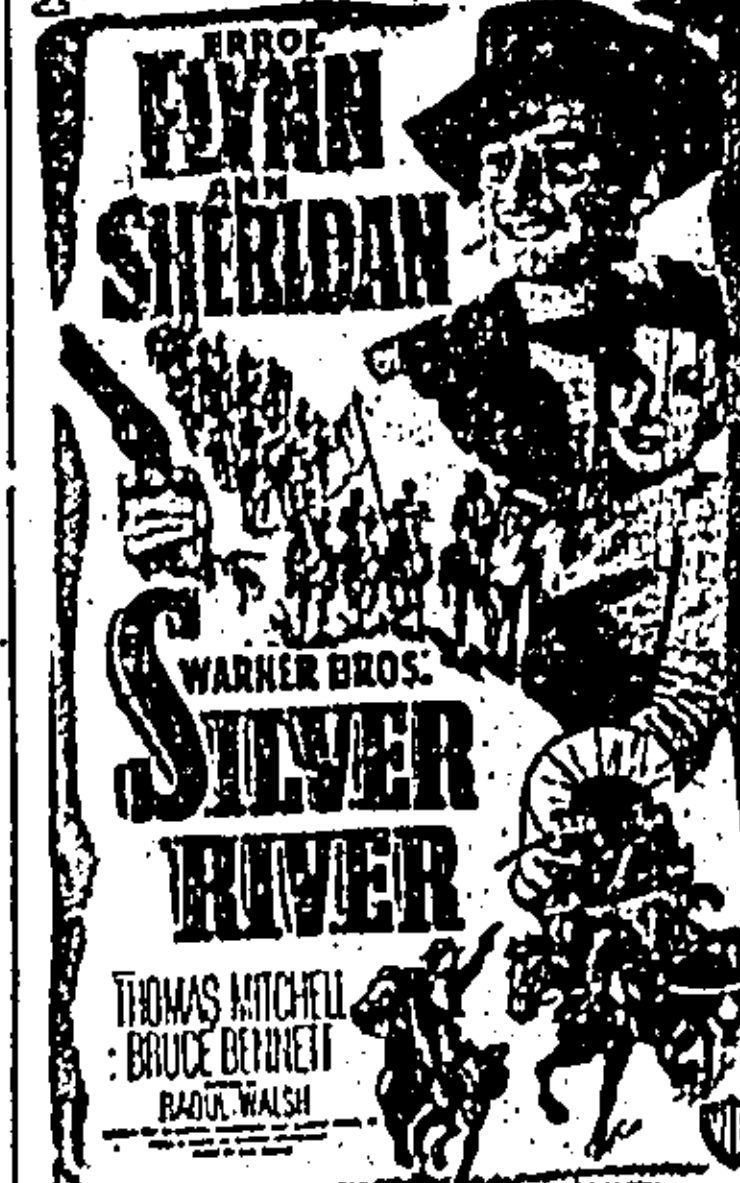
AIRMAIL Writing Pads, \$2. Scribbles Pad, three sizes 25, 50 cents and \$1. "S. C. M. Post."

OFFICE STATIONERY, Letter Heads, Memorandum Forms, Visiting Cards, Envelopes, Orders now taken. "S. C. M. Post."

STAR
Phone 58335

17 Hankow Road, Kowloon.
— FINAL SHOWING —
2.30, 5.10, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

(THEATREMAN'S LITTO AN EMPLOYE OF VICTOR STUBBINS)



— TO-MORROW —

Julia Misbehaves

Starring

Graor Carson, Walter

Pidgeon, Elizabeth

Taylor.

— TO-MORROW —

Julia Misbehaves

Starring

Graor Carson, Walter

Pidgeon, Elizabeth

Taylor.

— TO-MORROW —

Julia Misbehaves

Starring

Graor Carson, Walter

Pidgeon, Elizabeth

Taylor.

— TO-MORROW —

Julia Misbehaves

Starring

Graor Carson, Walter

Pidgeon, Elizabeth

Taylor.

— TO-MORROW —

Julia Misbehaves

Starring

Graor Carson, Walter

Pidgeon, Elizabeth

Taylor.